

HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

METHEXIS



The Monthly Bulletin of Holy Trinity - St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church of Staten Island

August 2025



HOLY TRINITY * ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Protopresbyter
Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD

STAFF

Parish Administrative Assistant: Vicky Dontis
Pastoral Assistant - Master Chanter: Achilleas Gantzoz
Building Maintenance: Zisis Bellos

PARISH COUNCIL

Executive Board

Andrew Economos, President
Spyro Lazaretos, 1st Vice President
Thomas Vlastakis, 2nd Vice President
Petros Gregoriou, Treasurer
Spiro Antypas, Assistant Treasurer
Florendia Dragazis, Esq., Secretary

Members

Christopher Dontis
Peter Kanakos
John Licciardello
Steven Mirones
Leah Platis
Andrew Sfougataakis, Esq.
Stephen Stark
Pauline Thaten
George Veres
Alex Vlastakis
Nestor Makarigakis
Frank Iemmiti

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
10:00am - 3:00pm





PARISH MINISTRIES

Ladies Philoptochos Society – Dee Sidiropoulos, President
Pto – Julia Balasis Maring, President
Goya – John Doyle, Priscilla Panteleakis, Directors
Chrisoula Kournidakis, Anna Zeakis-Lyons, Assistants
Jr. Goya – Kevi Langis, Maria Baggs, Directors
Joy – Kevi Langis, Director
Irene Zouboulis, Assistant
Hellenic Dancers – Stella Viris, Kevi Langis
Greek School – Stavroula Champaki, Teacher
Sunday School – Priscilla Panteleakis, Julia
Balasis Maring, Directors

ORGANIZATIONS

Ahepa – Socrates Dapias
Daughters of Penelope – Elena Morakis
Kritiki Filoxenia – Nikos Yasparakis
Pancyprians – Philip Phytides

INFO

-  1641 Richmond Ave, Staten Island, NY 10314
-  (718) 494 - 0658
-  info@htsngoc.org
-  www.htsngoc.org

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς

Ἦχος α΄

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας.
Ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε.
Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, Μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς,
καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη,
ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Ἐκοντάκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς

Ἦχος πλ. β΄

Τὴν ἐν πρεσβείαις ἀκοίμητον Θεοτόκον,
καὶ προστασίαις ἀμετάθετον ἐλπίδα,
τάφος καὶ νέκρωσις οὐκ ἐκράτησεν·
ὡς γὰρ ζωῆς Μητέρα, πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν μετέστησεν,
ὁ μήτραν οἰκήσας ἀειπαρθενον.

Ὁ Οἶκος

Τείχισόν μου τὰς φρένας Σωτήρ μου·
τὸ γὰρ τεῖχος τοῦ κόσμου ἀνυμνήσαι τολμῶ,
τὴν ἄχραντον Μητέρα σου· ἐν πύργῳ ῥημάτων ἐνίσχυσόν με,
καὶ ἐν βάρεσιν ἐνοιῶν ὀχύρωσόν με· σὺ γὰρ βοᾷς,
τῶν αἰτούντων πιστῶς τὰς αἰτήσεις πληροῦν.
Σὺ οὖν μοι δώρησαι γλῶτταν, προφοράν,
λογισμὸν ἀκαταίσχυντον· πᾶσα γὰρ δόσις ἐλλάμψεως,
παρὰ σοῦ καταπέμπεται φωταγωγέ,
ὁ μήτραν οἰκήσας ἀειπαρθενον.

Apolytikion of the Feast

Mode 1

You gave birth yet preserved your virginity.
You fell asleep in death
yet did not desert the world, O Theotokos.
You were transported to life, as you are Mother of Life
and, by virtue of your intercessions,
deliver our souls from death.

Ekontakion of the Feast

Mode pl. 2

The Theotokos is undying in intercession.
Immovable is our hope in her for protection.
Neither death nor burial prevailed over her.
As she is Mother of Life, she was removed to life by Him,
the Lord who lived in her ever-virgin womb.

Oikos

Fortify my mind, O my Savior;
for I am daring to extol Your immaculate Mother,
the fortress of the world.
Reinforce me with a tower of words,
and shelter me in a castle of concepts;
for You have promised to fulfill the requests
of those who request with faith.
Do, therefore, endow me with elocution,
expression, and dauntless meditation;
for every dose of illumination is sent down from You,
O guiding Light, who lived in her ever-virgin womb.

«Τῇ ἐνδόξῳ κοιμήσῃ σου οὐρανοὶ ἐπαγάλλονται»

(Στιχηρὸ αἶνων τῆς ἑορτῆς)

Δεκαπενταύγουστος, καὶ ἡ Ἁγία μας Ἐκκλησία τιμᾷ μὲ ἰδιαίτερη λαμπρότητα τὴν Κοίμησιν τῆς Ὑπεραγίας Θεοτόκου, τῆς Μητέρας τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἡ Παναγία, ἔγινε ἡ γέφυρα ποῦ ἐνώνει τὸν οὐρανὸ μὲ τὴ γῆ, ἔφυγε ἀπὸ τὸν κόσμον τοῦτο καὶ ἀνυψώνεται στὴ δόξα τοῦ Θεοῦ. Χαρὰ μεγάλη σήμερα σὲ οὐρανὸ καὶ γῆ. Ἐορτάζουν ἄγγελοι στὸν οὐρανὸ, εορτάζουν καὶ οἱ χριστιανοὶ ὅλης τῆς γῆς. Ἐνα τροπάριο τῆς ἑορτῆς, μᾶς ὑπενθυμίζει πολὺ ὠραία αὐτὴ τὴ χαρὰ: **«Τῇ ἐνδόξῳ κοιμήσῃ σου οὐρανοὶ ἐπαγάλλονται»**. Χαιρόμαστε καὶ πανηγυρίζουμε, γιατί δὲν ἔχουμε θάνατο, ἀλλὰ κοίμησιν. Ἔχουμε ἀνάστασιν καὶ μετάστασιν. Ἔχουμε ἄνοδο μὲ δόξα πολλὴ στὸν οὐρανὸ.


Ἡ Κοίμησιν τῆς Θεοτόκου εἶναι μιὰ ἑορτὴ γεμάτη ἐλπίδα καὶ χαρὰ, παρὰ τὴν ἐξωτερικὴ θλίψιν ποῦ συνδέεται μὲ τὴν ἀνθρώπινη ἀποχώρησιν. Αὐτὴ ἡ ἑορτὴ μᾶς ὑπενθυμίζει ὅτι ἡ ζωὴ δὲν τελειώνει μὲ τὸν θάνατο, ἀλλὰ συνεχίζεται στὴ Βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ἡ Παναγία, μὲ τὴν ταπεινώσιν καὶ τὴν πίστιν τῆς, μᾶς δείχνει τὸν δρόμον πρὸς τὴν αἰώνια ζωὴ.

Ἡ ζωὴ τῆς Παναγίας ἦταν παράδειγμα ἀγάπης καὶ ἀφοσίωσης πρὸς τὸ Θεό. Ἀπὸ τὴν στιγμὴν τοῦ Εὐαγγελισμοῦ, μὲ ταπεινοφροσύνην δέχθηκε τὸ θέλημα τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ μέχρι τὴν τελευταία μέρα τῆς ζωῆς τῆς, παρέμεινε πιστὴ καὶ ἀφιερωμένη στὴν ἀποστολὴν τῆς. Μὲ τὴν Κοίμησίν τῆς δὲν ὑποβάλλεται στὴν φθορὰ τοῦ θανάτου, ἀλλὰ ἀνυψώνεται στὸν οὐρανὸ ψυχὴ τε καὶ σῶματι. Ἡ μετάστασιν τῆς Παναγίας εἶναι μιὰ ὑπενθύμισιν γιὰ ἐμᾶς ὅτι ἡ ἀγάπην τοῦ Θεοῦ ὑπερβαίνει τὸν θάνατο. Ὅπως ἡ ἴδια ἀκολουθεῖ τὸν Υἱὸν τῆς στὴ δόξα, ἔτσι κι ἐμεῖς καλούμαστε νὰ ζήσουμε μὲ τὴν ἐλπίδα τῆς ἀναστάσεως καὶ τῆς αἰώνιας ζωῆς.

Ἄς ἐμπνευστοῦμε ἀπὸ τὴν πίστιν καὶ τὴν ἀφοσίωσιν τῆς Παναγίας καὶ ἄς προσπαθήσουμε νὰ ζήσουμε μιὰ ζωὴν ποῦ νὰ εἶναι εὐάρεσθιν στὸν Θεό. Ἄς τὴν παρακαλέσουμε νὰ μεσιτεύσει ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν, νὰ μᾶς προστατεύει καὶ νὰ μᾶς καθοδηγῇ στὸν δρόμον τῆς σωτηρίας. Ἄς συμμετέχουμε ὅσο πιὸ συχνὰ γίνεται στὶς Παρακλήσεις, ψάλλοντας ὕμνον εὐχαριστίας καὶ δοξολογίας πρὸς τιμὴν τῆς.

Ἀγαπητοὶ μου ἀδελφοί, ἄς ζήσουμε μὲ τὴν ἐλπίδα καὶ τὴν πίστιν ὅτι, ὅπως ἡ Παναγία ἀνυψώθηκε στὴ δόξα τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἔτσι κι ἐμεῖς θὰ ἀνυψωθοῦμε στὴν αἰώνια ζωὴ, ἐὰν μείνουμε πιστοὶ καὶ ἀφοσιωμένοι στὸν Κύριον μᾶς Ἰησοῦ Χριστό. Εὐχομαι ὁ Θεός, διὰ πρεσβειῶν τῆς Παναγίας, νὰ μᾶς χαρίζει τὴν εἰρήνην, τὴν ἀγάπην καὶ τὴν εὐλογία Του. Ἀμήν!

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



Βασίλειος Γ. Ἀποστολίδης, Δρ.Μ
Ἱερατικὸς Προϊστάμενος

«Your Dormition is glorious, all in heaven are jubilant»

(Sticheron of the Feast)

Every August 15th, our Holy Orthodox Church celebrates the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. This feast commemorates the moment when the Virgin Mary, after completing her earthly life, was taken up into heaven, body and soul, to be with her Son. There is great joy today in heaven and on earth. Angels are celebrating her grace in the sky. Christians around the world celebrate this. A beautiful hymn reminds us of this joy: **«Your Dormition is glorious, all in heaven are jubilant»**. We rejoice and celebrate because we do not have death, but sleep. We have resurrection and renewal.

The Dormition is a feast filled with hope and joy, despite the outward sorrow associated with leaving this life. It reminds us that death is not the end but a passage to eternal life with God. The Theotokos, through her humility and faith, shows us the way to this eternal life.

The life of the Theotokos was filled with love and dedication to God. From the moment of the Annunciation, when she humbly accepted God's will, to her Dormition, she remained faithful and committed to her mission. Her Assumption into heaven indicates that she did not experience the corruption of death but was exalted into glory with her body and soul.

This feast serves as a powerful reminder that God's love goes beyond death. Just as the Theotokos followed her Son into glory, we are also called to live with the hope of resurrection and eternal life. The Dormition teaches us the importance of faith and the promise of our resurrection.

Let us be inspired by the faith and devotion of the Theotokos and strive to live a life pleasing to God. Let us ask for her intercessions so she may guide and protect us on our spiritual journey. As we honor her Dormition, we also reaffirm our faith in the resurrection and the life to come.

My beloved brothers and sisters, let us live with hope and faith that, just as the Theotokos was exalted into God's glory, so shall we be raised to eternal life if we remain faithful and devoted to our Lord Jesus Christ. May God, through the intercessions of the Holy Theotokos, grant us peace, love, and His abundant blessings. Amen!

Reverend Protopresbyter



Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD
Presiding Priest

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Friday 1 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Sunday 3 **8th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Monday 4 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Wednesday 6 **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**
9:00am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Thursday 7 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Friday 8 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Sunday 10 **9th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Monday 11 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Tuesday 12 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Wednesday 13 7:00pm **Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos**

Friday 15 **THE DORMITION OF THE HOLY THEOTOKOS**
9:00am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday 17 **10th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday 24 **11th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

Sunday 31 **12th Sunday of Matthew**
8:30am **Orthros** - 10:00am **Divine Liturgy**

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Παρασκευή 1	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Κυριακή 3	8^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου 8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Δευτέρα 4	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Τετάρτη 6	Η ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ 9:00π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Πέμπτη 7	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Παρασκευή 8	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Κυριακή 10	9^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου 8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Δευτέρα 11	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Τρίτη 12	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Τετάρτη 13	7:00μ.μ. Παράκληση στην Ύπεραγία Θεοτόκο
Παρασκευή 15	Η ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ 9:00π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Κυριακή 17	10^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου 8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Κυριακή 24	11^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου 8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία
Κυριακή 31	12^η Κυριακή Ματθαίου 8:30π.μ. Όρθρος - 10:00π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία



ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

1	Π	Πρόδοξ του Τιμίου Σταυρού, 7 Μακαβαίων (Αρχή Νηστείας)
2	Σ	Ανακομιδή λειψάνων πρωτομάρτυρος Στεφάνου
3	Κ	+ Η΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ. Δαλμάτου, Ισαακίου, Φάυστου οσίου
4	Δ	Των εν Εφέσω 7 παιδων, Ευδοκίας οσιου.
5	Τ	Ευσιγνίου, Νόννης, Ευγενίου οσίου
6	Τ	+ Η ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ
7	Π	Δομετίου οσίου, Νικάνωρος οσίου
8	Π	Αιμιλιανού, Μύρωνος, Τριανταφύλλου νεομ.
9	Σ	Ματθία Αποστόλου, των εν Χαλκή Πύλη 10 Μαρτ.
10	Κ	+ Θ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ. Λαυρεντίου διακόνου, Ξύστου επ. Ρώμης
11	Δ	Εύπλου διακόνου, Νήφωνος πατρ. Κων/λεως
12	Τ	Φωτίου και Ανικήτου μαρτύρων, Παμφίλου
13	Τ	+ Απόδοσις Μεταμορφώσεως, Μαξίμου ομολογητού
14	Π	Μιχαίου προφήτου, Μαρκέλλου ιερομάρτ.
15	Π	+ Η ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ
16	Σ	Αγίου Μανδηλίου, Τιμοθέου, Ευρίπου, Αγ. Ιωσήφ του ησυχαστού
17	Κ	+ Γ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ. Μύρωνος, Παύλου & Ιουλιανής μαρτύρων
18	Δ	Φλώρου, Λαύρου, Λέοντος και Ερμού μαρτύρων
19	Τ	Ανδρέου στρατηλάτου, Ευτυχιανού μάρτυρος
20	Τ	Σαμουήλ προφήτου, Λουκίου μάρτυρος
21	Π	Θαδδαίου Αποστόλου εκ των 70, Βάσσης
22	Π	Αγαθονίκου, Ανθούσης, Αριάδνης
23	Σ	+ Απόδοσις Κοιμήσεως Θεοτόκου, (Πανηγ. Ι.Μ. Παρηγορητίσσης)
24	Κ	+ ΙΑ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ. Κοσμά Αιτωλού, Διονυσίου Ζακύνθου
25	Δ	Βαρθολομαίου Αποστ., Τίτου επ. Γορτύνης
26	Τ	Αδριανού και Ναταλίας μαρτύρων
27	Τ	+ Φανουρίου νεομάρτυρος, Ποιμένος οσίου
28	Π	Μουσέως Αιθίοπος, Διομήδους, Λαυρεντίου
29	Π	+ Αποτομή Κεφαλής Τιμίου Προδρόμου (νηστεία)
30	Σ	Αλεξάνδρου, Ιωάννου, Παύλου νέων πατριαρχών Κων/λεως
31	Κ	+ ΙΒ΄ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ. Κατάθεσις τιμίας Ζώνης της Θεοτόκου

ΗΜ	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ	ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ	ΗΧΟΣ - ΕΩΘΙΝΟΝ
3	Α΄ Κορ. α΄,10-17	Μτθ. ιδ΄,14-22	βαρύς / Η΄
6	Β΄ Πέτ. α΄,10-19	Μτθ. ιζ΄,1-9	—
10	Α΄ Κορ. γ΄,9-17	Μτθ. ιδ΄,22-34	πλ. δ΄ / Θ΄
15	Φιλιπ. β΄,5-11	Λκ. ι΄,38-42, ια΄,27-28	—
17	Α΄ Κορ. δ΄,9-16	Μτθ. ιζ΄,14-23	α΄ / Γ΄
23	Φιλιπ. β΄,5-11	Λκ. ι΄,38-42, ια΄, 27-28	—
24	Α΄ Κορ. θ΄,2-12	Μτθ. ιη΄,23-35	β΄ / ΙΑ΄
29	Πράξ. ιγ΄,25-33	Μρκ. στ΄,14-30	—
31	Εβρ. θ΄,1-7	Μτθ. ιθ΄,16-26	γ΄ / Α΄

SAINTS OF THE MONTH

1	F	Procession of the Holy Cross (Dormition Fast Begins)
2	S	Transfer of the Relics of Martyr Stephen
3	S	+ 8th SUN OF MATTHEW . Dalmatos, Isaakios, Faustos
4	M	The 7 Children of Ephesus, Eudokia
5	T	Eusygnius, Nonna, Eugenius the Righteous
6	W	+ THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR SAVIOUR
7	T	Dometius, Nikanor the Righteous
8	F	Aimilianos, Myron, Triantafillos the Newmartyr
9	S	Matthias the Apostle, The 10 Martyrs in Halki
10	S	+ 9th SUN OF MATTHEW . Laurence the Deacon, Xystos
11	M	Euplus the Deacon, Nyphon Patriarch of Con/ple
12	T	Photios and Aniketos, Pamphilos
13	W	+ Apodosis of the Transfiguration , Maximus the Confessor
14	T	Prophet Micah, Markellus the Hieromartyr
15	F	+ THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
16	S	Holy Mandylion, Timothy, Euripus
17	S	+ 10th SUN OF MATTHEW . Myron, Paul, Juliana the Martyrs
18	M	Floros, Lauros, Leo, Hermos the Martyrs
19	T	Andrew Stratelatis, Eutychianos the Martyr
20	W	Samuel the Prophet, Loukios the Martyr
21	T	Thaddeus of the 70 Apostles, Vassi
22	F	Agathonikos, Anthousa, Ariadne
23	S	+ Apodosis of the Dormition of the Theotokos
24	S	+ 11th SUN OF MATTHEW . Kosmas Aitolos, Dionysios of Zakynthos
25	M	Bartholomew the Apostle , Titus Bishop of Gortyna
26	T	Adrian and Natalie the Martyrs
27	W	+ Phanourius the Newmartyr , Poimen the Righteous
28	T	Moses the Ethiopian, Diomedes, Laurence
29	F	+ Beheading of John the Baptist (fast)
30	S	Patriarchs Alexander, Paul, John
31	S	+ 12th SUN OF MATTHEW . Placing of the Hon. Belt of the Theotokos

D	EPISTLE	GOSPEL	TONE - EOTHINON
3	I Cor. 1:10-17	Matt. 14:14-22	grave / 8th
6	II Pet. 1:10-19	Matt. 17:1-9	—
10	I Cor. 3:9-17	Matt. 14:22-34	pl.4th / 9th
15	Phil. 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28	—
17	I Cor. 4:9-16	Matt. 17:14-23	1st / 10th
23	Phil. 2:5-11	Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28	—
24	I Cor. 9:2-12	Matt. 18:23-35	2nd / 11th
29	Acts 13:25-33	Mark 6:14-30	—
31	Heb. 9:1-7	Matt. 19:16-26	3rd / 1st

ORTHODOX STUDIES

Η ΚΟΙΜΗΣΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ

του Ιωάννου Φουντούλη (†), Καθηγητού Πανεπιστημίου Θεσσαλονίκης

Η εορτή της Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου, που εορτάζει στις 15 Αυγούστου ο χριστιανικός κόσμος, είναι η μεγαλύτερη από τις εορτές που καθιέρωσε η Εκκλησία προς τιμήν της Μητρός του Κυρίου, τις θεομητορικές εορτές. Ίσως είναι και η παλαιότερα από όλες. Τις πρώτες μαρτυρίες έχουμε γι' αυτήν κατά τον Ε' αιώνα, γύρω στην εποχή που συνεκλήθη η Γ' Οικουμενική Σύνοδος της Εφέσου (451), που καθόρισε το θεομητορικό δόγμα και έγινε αιτία να αναπτυχθεί η τιμή στο πρόσωπο της Θεοτόκου. Για πρώτη φορά φαίνεται ότι συνεστήθη στα Ιεροσόλυμα την 13 Αυγούστου και λίγο αργότερα μετετέθη στις 15 του ίδιου μηνός. Είχε δε γενικότερο θεομητορικό χαρακτήρα, χωρίς ειδική αναφορά στο γεγονός της Κοιμήσεως.

Ονομαζόταν «ημέρα της Θεοτόκου Μαρίας». Κέντρο του πανηγυρισμού αναφέρεται στην αρχή ένα «Κάθισμα», ναός επ' ονόματί της, που βρισκόταν έξω από τα Ιεροσόλυμα στο τρίτο μίλιο της οδού που οδηγούσε στην Βηθλεέμ. Η σύνδεση της εορτής αυτής προς την Κοίμηση της Θεοτόκου έγινε στον περίφημο ναό της Παναγίας που βρισκόταν στην Γεθσημανή, το «ευκτήριο του Μαυρικού», όπου υπήρχε και ο τάφος της. Αυτός ο ναός πολύ σύντομα πήρε τον χαρακτήρα του μεγαλύτερου θεομητορικού προσκυνήματος και η ακτινοβολία του έγινε αιτία η πανήγυρίς του κατά την 15η Αυγούστου γρήγορα να διαδοθεί σ' ολόκληρο τον χριστιανικό κόσμο σε ανατολή και δύση σαν εορτή της Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου.

Αργότερα εξήρθη η εορτή με την προπαρασκευαστική νηστεία και την παράταση του εορτασμού μέχρι της 23ης ή και μέχρι του τέλους του Αυγούστου και έγινε όχι μόνο η μεγαλύτερα θεο-

μητορική εορτή αλλά και μία από τις σπουδαιότερες εορτές του εκκλησιαστικού έτους. Αυτό βέβαια ήταν φυσικό να γίνει, γιατί η Θεοτόκος είναι το προσφιλέστερο και ιερότερο πρόσωπο μετά τον Κύριο και γι' αυτό συνεκέντρωσε την τιμή και την ευλάβεια όλων των χριστιανικών γενεών. Αναρίθμητοι ναοί και μονές έχουν κτισθεί προς τιμήν της Κοιμήσεώς της, θαυμάσιες τοιχογραφίες παριστάνουν σε κάθε ναό πίσω από την κεντρική είσοδο σε εκπληκτικές συνθέσεις την ιερά της κηδεία, ύμνοι εκλεκτοί έχουν διακοσμήσει την ακολουθία της και λόγοι λαμπροί και εγκώμια εξεφωνήθησαν από τους Πατέρες και νεωτέρους εκκλησιαστικούς άνδρες κατά την ημέρα της μνήμης της. Όλες οι ανθρώπινες γενεές συναγωνίστησαν στην προσφορά ό,τι εκλεκτοτέρου είχαν να παρουσιάσουν, για να μακαρίσουν έργο και λόγω την Παρθένο Μαρία.

ΤΟ ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΟ ΤΗΣ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ

Για την κατανόηση του εορτολογικού περιεχομένου της εορτής της Κοιμήσεως, όπως και των άλλων θεομητορικών εορτών, της Συλλήψεως, της Γεννήσεως και των Εισοδίων, πρέπει να κάνουμε μία μικρά αναδρομή στις πηγές, από τις οποίες αντλήθηκαν τα θεομητορικά αυτά θέματα. Διαφορετικά είναι αδύνατο να ερμηνεύσει κανείς ό,τι συνδέεται με τον εορτασμό αυτόν, τα συναξάρια, την υμνογραφία και την εικονογραφία τους. Οι αυθεντικές ιστορικές πηγές, τα Ευαγγέλια και τα άλλα βιβλία της Καινής Διαθήκης, δεν μας διέσωσαν πληροφορίες για τον προ του Ευαγγελισμού και για τον

μετά την Ανάληψη του Κυρίου βίο της Θεοτόκου. Πρόθεση των ιερών συγγραφέων ήταν να αφηγηθούν τον βίο και το σωτηριάδες έργο του Χριστού και ό,τι άμεσα συνεδέετο με Αυτόν και όχι να ικανοποιήσουν την ευλαβή περιέργεια ή τα ιστορικά ενδιαφέροντα των αναγνωστών τους. Η παράδοση όμως της Εκκλησίας διέσωσε από στόματος εις στόμα διάφορες πληροφορίες που αφορούσαν στον βίο της Θεοτόκου προ της συλλήψεως του Κυρίου και μετά την Ανάστασή Του. Αργότερα διάφοροι ευλαβείς συγγραφείς περιέλαβαν τις πληροφορίες αυτές και τις ανέπτυξαν με την φαντασία τους και για να έχουν περισσότερο κύρος έθεσαν στους τίτλους των έργων τους μεγάλα αποστολικά ονόματα. Η Εκκλησία απέρριψε και καταδίκασε τα βιβλία αυτά και τα ονόμασε «Απόκρυφα» και «Ψευδεπίγραφα». Σε μεταγενέστερη εποχή πολλές από τις διηγήσεις αυτές, τουλάχιστον στις βασικές τους γραμμές, έδωσαν θέματα στην διαμόρφωση εορτών, στη σύνταξη συναξαρίων, στην ποίηση ύμνων και στην εικονογραφία. Εξ άλλου, καθώς προείπαμε, ο πυρήνας των διηγήσεων αυτών είχε ως βάση του παμπάλαιες ιστορικές παραδόσεις γύρω από το πρόσωπο της Θεοτόκου.

ΑΦΗΓΗΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΓΕΓΟΝΟΤΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΜΗΣΕΩΣ

Ειδικά το γεγονός της Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου αφηγείται, εκτός των άλλων, και μια απόκρυφη διήγηση, που φέρεται υπό το όνομα του ηγαπημένου μαθητού του Κυρίου, του Ιωάννου. Μια περιληψη του εκτενούς αυτού κειμένου θα παρουσιάσουμε εδώ. Σε κάθε του σημείο ο αναγνώστης του θυμάται αντίστοιχες φράσεις από τους ύμνους και το συναξάριο της εορτής και λεπτομέρειες από την εικόνα της Κοιμήσεως που φιλοτέχνησαν βυζαντινοί ζωγράφοι.

Η Παναγία μετά την Ανάληψη του Χριστού καθημερινώς ηγαίνει στο ζωδόχο μνήμα και προσεύχεται. Μία Παρασκευή ο Αρχάγγελος Γαβριήλ παρουσιάζεται μπροστά της και την χαιρετά: «Χαίρε, η γενήσασα Χριστόν τον Θεόν ημών. Ο Κύριος



άκουσε την προσευχή σου και θα αφήσεις τον κόσμο και θα πορευθείς εις την ζωήν την αληθινήν και αδιάδοχον». Η Θεοτόκος επιστρέφει στον οίκο της, θυμάζει και προσεύχεται στον Χριστό να της στείλει τον Ιωάννη και τους λοιπούς Αποστόλους, για να παρασταθούν στον θάνατό της. Η προσευχή της εισακούεται και πρώτος φθάνει, αρπαγείς από νεφέλη, ο Ιωάννης και σε λίγο επί νεφελών και οι λοιποί Απόστολοι οι διεσπαρμένοι στα πέρατα του κόσμου. Την Κυριακή έρχεται με την απαστράπτουσα δόξα Του και με χιλιάδες αγγέλους ο Κύριος να παραλάβει την ψυχή της Μητρός Του. Εκείνη ευλογεί τους Αποστόλους και τον κόσμο, δέεται για την σωτηρία όλων και αφού λαμβάνει την υπόσχεση ότι «πάσα ψυχή επικαλουμένη το όνομά της ου μη καταισχυθή, αλλ' εύρη έλεος και παράκλησιν και αντίληψιν και παρησίαν και εν τω νυν αιώνι και εν τω μέλλοντι», παραδίδει την αγία της ψυχή στα χέρια του Υιού της. Οι Απόστολοι περιπτύσσονται το σκήνος και ψάλλοντες μεταφέρουν την κλίνη με το σώμα για ταφή. Ένας Εβραίος ονόματι Ιεφωνίας ορμά και επιχειρεί «κατά της κλίνης», αλλ' άγγελος Κυρίου με «ξίφος πυρός» αποκόπτει τα χέρια του από των ώμων, που μένουν κρεμασμένα στην κλίνη. Αυτός μετανοεί και κολλώνται πάλι τα χέρια του, ενώ οι Απόστολοι ανενόχλητοι συνεχίζουν την εκφορά. Το σκήνος θάπτεται σε καινό μνημείο στην Γεθσημανή, την Τρίτη όμως ημέρα «μετετέθη εν Παραδείσω».

ORTHODOX STUDIES

THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

by Ioannis Phountoulis (†), Professor at the University of Thessaloniki

The feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God is celebrated on August 15 by the Christian world and is the greatest of those established by the Church in honor of the Mother of the Lord. It may be the oldest of all. The first evidence we have for it dates from the 5th century, about the time when the 3rd Ecumenical Synod was convened in Ephesus (451), at which the dogma of the Mother of God was defined and the honor due to her was developed. It appears that it was first held in Jerusalem on 13 August and was transposed soon afterwards to the 15th of the same month. It was a general feast of the Virgin Mary, without particular reference to her Dormition.

It was called “the day of Mary, the Mother of God”. The center for the celebrations initially was a “kathisma (seat)”, a church in her name, which was located outside Jerusalem, some three miles along the road leading to Bethlehem. The association of the feast with the Dormition of the Mother of God occurred at the famous church of Our Lady in Gethsemane, “Mavrikios’ house of prayer”, where her grave was. This church quickly acquired the status of the most important pilgrimage site of the Mother of God, and its renown became the reason why the feast on 15 August quickly spread throughout the Christian world, East and West, as the feast of the Dormition.

The feast was later elevated, with a preparatory fast and the extension of the feasting until 23 August or even to the end of the month and so it became not only the greatest of the feasts of the Mother of God but also one of the most important in the Church’s year. It was only natural that this

should be so, because Our Lady is the best-loved and holy person after Christ, which is why she has attracted the honor and veneration of all generations of Christians. Countless churches and monasteries have been built in honor of her Dormition; in every church, behind the main entrance, wonderful wall-paintings of astonishing composition depict her funeral; her service has been embellished with choice hymns; and fine words and encomia have been expressed by the Fathers and modern Church figures on the day when we commemorate her. All generations of humankind have rivalled each other in presenting the best they have to offer, to praise and bless the Virgin Mary in word and deed.

THE FESTAL CONTENT OF THE FEAST

To understand better the festal content of the feast of the Dormition, and indeed, that of the other feasts of the Mother of God, the Conception, the Nativity, and the Entrance into the Temple, we need to look back briefly at the sources from which the information concerning her was drawn. Otherwise, it’s impossible to interpret all the things associated with this celebration: the narratives, the hymnography and the iconography. The authentic historical sources, the Gospels and the other books of the New Testament have not preserved any information about her life before the Annunciation or after the Ascension of the Lord. The intention of the authors was to narrate the life and the work of salvation of Christ, and whatever was directly



linked with Him; not to satisfy the devout curiosity or the historical interests of their readers. By word of mouth, however, the tradition of the Church preserved various pieces of information having to do with the life of the Mother of God before the Conception of the Lord and after His Resurrection. Thereafter different authors, devout for the most part, took this information and embellished it through their imagination, and, to give their works greater kudos, affixed great apostolic names to them. The Church rejected these works and called them apocryphal and falsified. In later times, many of these narratives, in their most basic forms, provided the subject matter for the formation of feasts, the construction of narratives, the poetry of hymns and the composition of icons. In any case, as we've said, the core of these narratives had as its base very old historical traditions concerning the person of the Mother of God.

STORY OF THE EVENT OF THE DORMITION

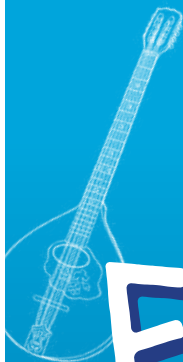
The event of the Dormition, in particular, is told, apart from elsewhere, in an apocryphal narrative which bears the name John, the beloved disciple of Christ. We shall present a summary of this lengthy text here. At each point, the reader will recall corresponding phrases from the hymns and synaxarion of the feast and details from the icon of the Dormition, which was painted by Byzantine artists.

After Christ's Ascension, the Mother of God went to the life-receiving tomb every day and prayed. One Friday, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and saluted her: "Hail, you who bore Christ our God. The Lord has heard your prayer and you will leave the world and enter the true and eternal life". The Mother of God returned home, burned incense and prayed to Christ to send her John and the other apostles, so that they could be present at her death. Her petition was heard and the first to arrive, snatched up in a cloud was John and then the others were borne by clouds and came from the ends of the earth, to which they had scattered. The Lord arrived in his radiant glory and, with thousands of angels, He received the soul of His Mother. She blessed the apostles and the world, interceded for the salvation of all and, having been given the assurance that "any soul invoking her name would not be put to shame but would find mercy and comfort and defense and boldness in the present life and that of the future", she gave up her holy soul into the hands of her Son.

The apostles surrounded the body and, chanting, lifted up her bed with the body lying upon it, to be buried. A Jew by the name of Jeronias made to attack the bed, but an angel of the Lord, with a sword of fire, cut off his arms at the shoulder, and they remained attached to the bed. He repented and they were re-attached, while the apostles continued the cortege undisturbed. The body was buried in a new tomb in Gethsemane, but on the third day was transported to Paradise.



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



GREEK FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER

19TH 6-11 PM

20TH 2-11 PM

21ST 2-9 PM



GREEK FOOD & PASTRIES

GREEK LIVE MUSIC
HELLENIC DANCERS



KIDDIE RIDES

1641 RICHMOND AVE
STATEN ISLAND, NY

Admission \$2.00 * Children under 5 ADMITTED FREE * ATM on site

PARISH COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to announce that our Festival dates this year are September 19th, 20th and 21st.

Everyone knows the amount of work that goes into putting our Festival into motion. We are asking all those who can offer a few hours that weekend to help out at the stations, to please call or email the office with your contact information. You will be notified of upcoming meetings.

Be a part of our biggest fundraiser - it has become one of Staten Island's main highlights and a September tradition for all of us.

Please contact us at info@htsnogoc.org or call us at 718-494-0658.

We can do so much when we all work as a team!

Andrew Economos
President

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us every Sunday after Divine Liturgy



August 3 rd	PanCyprians
August 10 th	Kritiki Filoxenia
August 17 th	Daughters of Penelope
August 24 th	Parish Council
August 31 th	Philoptochos

*Please note... all Fasting days are in **bold***

Σημείωση... Οι ημέρες Νηστείας είναι με έντονα γράμματα

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

<p>3 </p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>	<p>4 </p> <p>Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM</p>	<p>5 </p>	<p>6 </p> <p>Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>
<p>10 </p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM</p>	<p>12 </p> <p>Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>	<p>18 </p>	<p>19 </p>	<p>20 </p>
<p>24</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>	<p>25 </p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 </p>
<p>31</p> <p>Orthros 8:30 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>			

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	1 Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM	2 
7 Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM	8 Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos 7:00 PM	9 
14 	15 Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	16 
21 	22 	23 
28 	29 	30 



Strict Fast: Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.

Αυστηρή νηστεία: Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, το λάδι, το κρασί, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Red)



Wine & Oil: Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.

Κρασί & Λάδι: Το κρασί και το λάδι επιτρέπονται. Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Purple)



Fish, oil and wine are allowed: Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs. **Τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί επιτρέπονται:** Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα αυγά και τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα. (Blue)



Dairy Allowed: Dairy, fish, eggs, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat.

Επιτρέπονται γαλακτοκομικά: Επιτρέπονται τα γαλακτοκομικά, τα αυγά, τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί. Αποφύγετε το κρέας. (Orange)

No Symbol Fast Free: All Foods Allowed.

Χωρίς σύμβολο: Κατάλυσιν εις πάντα: Επιτρέπονται όλα τα τρόφιμα (Yellow)

LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Dear Philoptochos Sisters and fellow parishioners,

As the summer comes to an end and we start a new year of our ministries, I wanted to summarize our successful “Red Carpet Grand” winners from our “Nite at the Oscars” dinner. With your continued support and dedication, our annual fundraiser brought in well over the expected amount which included the “Oscar Winning Auction”, “Lights Camera, Action -50/50, and our “Academy Award Ticket Master Raffle” monies. The following are the winners of our “Red Carpet Grand” Drawing:



- 1st Prize: Jennifer Mondelli (Cashmere Caped w/Sable Collar & Cuffs)
- 2nd Prize: Sophia Mirones (Diamond Earrings)
- 3rd Prize: Effie Trepel (Turquoise Gold 4 pc Jewelry Set)
- 4th Prize: Toula Papanikolaou (Estee Lauder Treasures 9 pc. Beauty Set)
- 5th Prize: Demetrios Litsakis (\$500)
- 6th Prize: Dimitra Tsaros (\$500)
- 7th Prize: Cheryl Antypas (Marc Jacobs Bag)
- 8th Prize: Sylvia Raptis (Konstatinato Gold Charm w/gold chain)
- 9th Prize: Carol Biell (Furla Top-handle Mini Bag Ballerina 1927)
- 10th Prize: Deena Demetriades (\$400)
- 11th Prize: Roseann Ardolino (Michael Kors Bag)
- 12th Prize: Christina Tountes (\$200)

Congratulations to all and thank you very much. We couldn't have done it without you!

We would also like to congratulate all our High School Graduates, Greek School Graduates, and St. Basil Academy Graduates. May the Holy Spirit guide them now and always as they move forward in their journey of success.



The following are our events for the month of August:

- 8/3 Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen

Thank you to our two new volunteers Mike Theodorakis and Philip Christakos for their devotion and efforts on July 6th Soup Kitchen. Along with the regular crew, they cooked and served an “All American” meal: Two franks, Cole Slaw, Vegetarian Beans, Sauerkraut, and Apple Pie. It was a wonderful 4th of July celebration!

- 8/15 Commemoration of the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Please join us for a small Lenten luncheon to celebrate in our community center.
- 8/25 Cook for Project Hospitality

Save the Date:
Sunday, September 28th, Welcome Back Meeting
More info to follow

PLEASE NOTE: All correspondence regarding Ladies Philoptochos Society can be made through our new Philoptochos email: philoptochos@htsngoc.org

Conveying the blessings and love of Fr. Vasileios,

Faithfully,
Dee Sidiropoulos, President

STEWARDSHIP LIST 2025



(as of July 10, 2025)

Rev. Vasileios and Presvytera Elisavet Apostolidis	Michael Della Croce Nicole Della Croce	Yiannis and Arhontoula Ikonomou
Rev. Nicholas and Presvytera Patricia Petropoulakos	James Demetriades Philip Denis	Virginia Itsines Paul and Maryann Jannace
Cathy Alicakos Ken and Denise Andolino	Demetrius and Angela Dermanis Anthony Devito	Irene Joris Elias and Cathy Kalaizes
Nestor and Lori Andrianos Greg and Maria Angelides	Dimitri Dimitriou Christopher and Stephanie Dontis	George Kalaizes Barbara Kallinikos
John and Emily Antonopoulos Spiro and Cheryl Antypas	Nicholas and Vicky Dontis Alexandra Doyle	Despina Kalogrides Marina Kanakos
George and Niki Apostolopoulos Panagiota Arfanis	John Doyle Jr. John and Florendia Dragazis	Peter and Gloria Kanakos Theodore Kanellis
Konstantinos and Susan Arvanites Michael Arvanites	Doyle Paraskevi Dragazis	Bertha Kapetanakis Andreas Kapsalis
Emanuel and Anna Belibasakis Hazis and Zhanetta Bello	Edward and Julia Dunphy Vernon and Maria Dutton	Nicholas Kapsalis Lori Karelis
Steve and Cheryl Bontales Christine Borovilas	Andrew and Stacey Economos Dyala Sophia Eid	George and Penny Karidis Michael Kasidonis
John Borovilas Andrew Brennan	Elias and Evangelia Etimos Kimon and Mary Frantzeskakis	Alexios and Susan Katsanos George Katsoris Jr.
Melissa Brennan Kyriakos Cambos	Alexis Gaudi-Clemente Argyrios and Olga Gerazounis	Christina Kenwood Diana Kolaitis
Edna Cardinale John and Christine Charitis	Vincent and Linda Gerecitano Patricia Germano	Argeta Komninos Kyriaki Kosmidou
Demetra Christofilakes Carlos Colon	John and Corinne Girgis Socrates and Katerina Grammenos	Paulina Koudellou Vasili and Koula Koukounis
Anneta Colon Donna Colonna	Peter A. Gregor Petros and Eirini Gregoriou	Dimitrios and Vivian Koulouris Peter Kouretsos
Kay Constantine Fay Corinotis	Despina Grigos Pauline Grillos	Georgia Koutsovasilis Nataliya Kuchinka
Maria Coussoule Pamela Crivera	Steven and Georgia Guagenti Gloria Haramis	Mary N. Kusas John and Maria Lago
Mary Cuccia Emily Cummings	George and Stephanie Haros Alexandra Hondros	Spyro and Karen Lazaretos Toula Lellos
Michael and Joy Cummings	Frank and Christine Iemmiti	George and Panagiota Leunes

Helen Leventakis
John Licciardello
Pavlos and Dimitra Lintzeris
Andrew Litos
Angela LoBasso
Emily Loukas
Nestor and Katy Makarigakis
Yiannis Mallas
George Malliotakis
John Marangos
Nicholas Mardikos
Nikki Ann Mardikos
Christos Marinakis
Michael and Julia Maring
Kathy Massimillo
Vasilios and Krystle Mastoras
Emmanuel and Tina Padas -
Mavroudis
Effie Melahrinakis
Mary Menichella
John Michael
Konstantinos and Anastasia Michos
Adam and Diane Miller
Steven and Sophia Mirones
George Mitsogiorgakis
Stefanos Mitsogiorgakis
George Mitsopoulos
Harry and Mary Monioudis
Ierotheos Moraitis
Christine Moscoso
Catherine Moudatsos
Mary Mousmoutis
Nicholas Mousmoutis
Thomas Napoli
Roula Ntiudis
John and Lola Palividas
Dennis and Irene Panagos
Peter Panagos
Minas Papageorgiou
Androulla Papaicovou

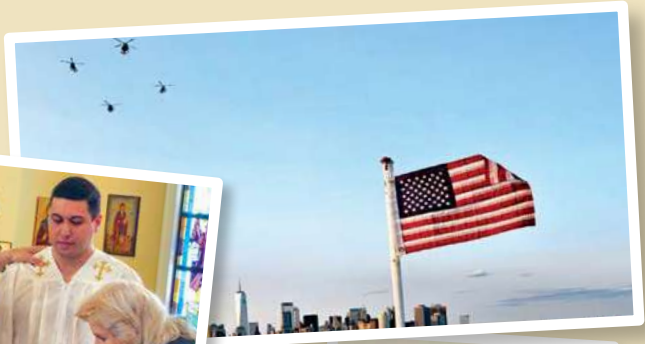
Maria Papaioannou
Toula Papanikolaou
Nicholas Papas
Katherine Pappas
Tasia Pavalis
Kostas and Katina Paxis
Jason and Antonette Pearson
William and Constance Peist
Stacey Petropoulakos
Philip and Penny Phytides
Evangelia Platis
Markos and Anita Platis
George and Pat Rassias
Peter and Helen Rassias
Voula Reveliotis
Louis and Estelle Ricciardi
Donald and Linda Ritchie
Dennis Rondogiannis
George and Eugenia Roussis
Nicholas and Christiana Roussis
Anthony Ruggiero
Frank and Pauline Schirripa
Kathy Scuteri
Katherine Seremetis
Jim and Dee Sidiropoulos
Michael Siozios
Helen Spanos
Chris and Mary Spirocostas
Carol Spithogiannis
Nicole Spithogiannis
Stephen Stark Sr.
Thomas and Moira Stavola

Michael Stratis
Georgiana Telegadis delBusto
Harry Thambounaris
Maria Thomas
Nikolaos and Christina Tountas
Irene Tragares
Eleni Trepel
Keith and Effie Trepel
Alexios and Lucia Tsakonias
Tom and Antonetta Tsakonias
Joanne Tsirigotis
Lea Tsokris
Elpis Tsoukalas
Konstantinos and Irene Tsoukas
Constantinos and Helen Tzivas
Demetra Vass
Kayla Vayos
George Veres
Diane Vernados
Mary Veros
David and Stella Viris
Alex and Lisa Vlastakis
Emmanuel and Stella Vlastakis
Thomas and Kaliope Vlastakis
Evangelos and Maria Xenakis
Niki Yiannoulatos
Maria Zachariades
George Zalantis
Chris Zorbas
Dimitra Zorbas
Emanuel and Irene Zoumboulis

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2025 continues. We humbly ask that every family member, 18 years of age or older, submit a separate pledge. This support will enable us to move our Parish closer to an inspirational budget, in which we hope and pray that 100% of the church's operational expenses will be supported by Stewardship giving. Please fill out your pledge card and send it in today!

*We thank you for your consideration
and continued support!*





Happy Independence Day!



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Presbytera Elisavet



(Baked Mackerel with Tomato & Herbs)

Ingredients (Serving 4):

- 4 fresh mackerel (kolios)
- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
- 1–2 medium tomatoes, sliced
- 8 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 cup water
- 4 sprigs fresh parsley, finely chopped
(plus extra for serving)
- Salt & pepper, to taste

Instructions:

1. Preheat your oven to 350°F.
2. In a medium baking pan, place the fish side by side. Top them with the sliced tomatoes, onions, chopped parsley, and season with salt and pepper.
3. Add the water and drizzle with the olive oil.
4. Bake for about 20–30 minutes, or until the fish is fully cooked and tender.
5. Serve warm, sprinkled with fresh parsley, and accompany with couscous or rice.

The Feast of the Transfiguration of our Savior is celebrated on August 6th, the day marking the dedication of the church built by Saint Helen on Mount Tabor. Christ ascended Mount Tabor with His disciples Peter, James, and John to pray. The three disciples, weary, fell asleep, and when they awoke, they beheld Christ shining in divine glory—revealing to them His Divinity and true nature. He is not only man, but truly God.

On this feast day, a special exception is made from the Dormition fast: the faithful are allowed to eat fish.

As the Greek proverb says:

“Everything in its own time, and mackerel in August”

«Κάθε πράγμα στον καιρό του κι ο κολιός τον Αύγουστο»

reminding us that things are best when done at the right time.

Tip: You can substitute mackerel with Atlantic chub mackerel (skoumbri) if needed.

DID YOU KNOW?

The word “plaki” comes from the ancient Greek word “plakion”, referring to a flat dish or baking plate used for pies. Today, “plaki” refers to a cooking method - usually baking in the oven (or shallow pan) with aromatic vegetables, such as onion, garlic, tomato, carrot, or potato, and is commonly used for fish and legumes.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE



The Daughters of Penelope, as part of their objective of Philanthropy and education, have supported several programs dedicated to children.

Saint Basil Academy Experience Program. The program is designed to provide formative experiences that help shape young lives. From summer camps to music lessons, outdoor adventures to museum trips, Saint Basil Academy provides residents with the formative and character building experiences that every child needs.

Very Joyful Comfort Program at the Staten Island zoo. The program was created in memory of Victoria and Joanna Charitis. It provides access to education programs and intimate animal encounters for special needs classes as well as maintaining a visiting animal program to serve local nursing homes and rehabilitation centers.

Join the Daughters chapter at our meetings resuming in September and learn about these and other activities.

ADVERTISEMENTS

GREEK DANCE LESSONS with Niko

now offering:
individual & group private lessons

for pricing & scheduling please contact
Niko Nikolovienis
P: 929-253-5198
E: nicknikolo@yahoo.com

Giant
BEVERAGE CO.



929-415-7038

COMPASS ROSE AND SONS, INC.

Insurance

80 Maiden Lane, Suite 701
New York, NY 10038

Telephone: (212)406-4004
Fax: (212)406-4225
John@compassroseservices.com

DUAL PROCESS ROTARY JET EXTRACTION TRUCK MOUNT STEAM EXTRACTION
SPOT REMOVAL SPECIALIST
ODAR REMOVAL



**DOR CARPET &
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**
RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL
"WE DON'T CUT CORNERS WE CLEAN THEM"

(718) 477-2101
(718) 966-8099

EMERGENCY FLOODS
1-917-734-2745

Maria Anna Kassomenakis
Greek Translator
leotaurina@yahoo.com

Translations - Μεταφράσεις - Πληρεξούσια

646 460 0470
844 954 6467

Thank You For Your Business!

Messararis Bros.
Electricians
Alex and Solon Messararis

Electric Repair
Home Wiring
Light Fixtures
Landscape Lighting
Emergency Services
and more!

347-466-0714 Alex
Alexmessararis@gmail.com

347-466-1008 Solon
Solonmessararis@gmail.com

Northfield
Bank

Laurie Guinta
Senior Vice President
Senior Regional Manager
Phone (718) 448-1000 x1919
Cell (347) 850-5326
LGuinta@eNorthfield.com
www.eNorthfield.com

BOTOX

- *Laser Hair Removal
- *Skin Tightening
- *PRP Hair Treatments
- *PRP Facial Treatments

SOMA
Medical Services

FILLERS

- *IV Vitamin Therapy
- *Body Contouring
- *Chemical Peels
- *Vaginal Rejuvenation

236 Richmond Valley Rd. Staten Island, NY 10309

718-682-1900

somamedicalsi.com

**The Thambounaris Family
Wishes All
Health and Happiness**



HELLENIC CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS
HCCS-PS 646 5th Ave Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215
offices@hccs-nys.org
HCCS-SI 1641 Richmond Ave Staten Island, N.Y. 10314
Offices@hccs-nys.org
Tel: (718) 499-0957



2819 Hylan Boulevard • Staten Island, NY 10306
Tel.: (718) 351-5858 FAX: (718) 351-8270
www.colonialfuneralhome.si.com

Vivian Kokkinos, ABR, CRS
Licensed Real Estate Associate Broker
Real Estate Investor
SIBOR Top Producer
NYU Graduate: BA,
Economics and Psychology

Office (718) 442-4400
Cell/Text (917) 885-9026
Fax (718) 442-4401
VivianKokkinos@live.com
www.VivianMovesYou.com
60 Sand Lane
Staten Island, NY 10305

Eltingville Florist



Steven Ballaro
3938 Richmond Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10312
Phone: (718) 966-1666
www.ellingvilleflorist.com

Family-Owned. Trusted for Generations.
Over 50 Years Serving Families in New York & New Jersey

MATAWAH **STATEN ISLAND** **OLD BRIDGE**

111 MAIN STREET 28 Eltingville Blvd 3377 US HIGHWAY 9
848-600-1500 718-356-6363 732-679-4422
KEVIN G. MORAN JOHN VINCENT SCALIA, JR., MANAGER CELSIA SCALIA-ARBON
MANAGER, NY LIC. #249

ScaliaFuneralHomes.com

**ANDREW'S
DINER**



**RETIRED
NYPD CAPTAIN**

RB LAW

ROBERT E. BROWN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

RBrown@RobertBrownLaw.com
14 Wall Street, 20th Fl. New York, NY 10005
NY Tel. 212.766.9779
1200 South Avenue, Suite 201
Staten Island, NY 10314
Staten Island Tel. 718.979.9779 F. 718.979.9784

Roy's Bikes.com

Roy's
Sheephead
Cycle
BROOKLYN

Tel: (718) 648-1440
Tel: (718) 646-9430
Service: (718) 743-1295
Raysbikes@gmail.com

2679 Coney Island Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11235

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

**Advertise
with us!**

COVID FRIENDLY NEW CAR LEASING WITH DOOR TO DOOR DELIVERY



Tel: (718) 704-0800 Cell: (646) 206-1706
E: miket@vestisauto.com

**MIKE
THEODORAKIS**
General
Manager



885 Huguenot Ave. Suite 201, Staten Island, NY 10312
www.vestisautoleasing.com

9720864-01

OUR LOCATION IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE

One block from SI Expressway / Victory Blvd. Exit

MATTHEW

FUNERAL HOME AND
CREMATION SERVICES, INC.



Family Owned & Operated for Over 50 Years

Matthew Scamardella & John Scamardella, Owners
Michael H. Scamardella & Christopher L. DeLuca,
Licensed Funeral Directors

2508 Victory Blvd. ♦ SI, NY 10314 (718) 761-5544
www.matthewfuneralhome.com

We are the Dignity Difference

- 100% SERVICE GUARANTEE
- COMPASSION HELPLINE®
- FREE ONLINE OBITUARY

- BEREAVEMENT TRAVEL ASSISTANCE
- RELOCATION PROTECTION
- LIFETIME FLEXIBILITY

Casey Funeral Home

718-447-4242

Harmon Funeral Home

718-442-5056

Virginia Funeral Chapel

718-987-2828

Casey McCallum Rice South Shore Funeral Home

718-317-7600

Every Detail Remembered™ | Dignity®

These firms are owned by a subsidiary of Service Corporation International, 1929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas 77019 (713) 522-5141

Advertise with us!

Advertise your business in our monthly bulletin! The bulletin is distributed eleven times during the year connecting you to our entire community. Enclose your business card or an already pdf. If you need help producing an ad, just call our office and they will be happy to assist you.

Ad Size 3"x1.5" \$250.00/year

Ad Size 6"x4" \$500.00/year

Ad Size 7.5"x6" \$900.00/year

METHEXIS[©]

«*Methexis*» /mé.tʰek.sis/, (*méthexis*):

Mental, spiritual participation, meeting, contact and communication

The Monthly Bilingual Bulletin of Holy Trinity-St Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church of Staten Island.

Our mission is to reach out to all members of the Community by providing useful information
about the ecclesiastical, spiritual, and cultural life of the entire Parish.

Editorial Director

Rev. Protoperbyter Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD

Layout Design

GREEN Studio

METHEXIS is also available online at:

www.htsngoc.org

The next deadline for submitting news to **METHEXIS** is

August 10, 2025

Submissions can be emailed to:

info@htsngoc.org

The views expressed belong to the contributors and do not necessarily represent
the views of Holy Trinity-St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.

© 2025, **Holy Trinity-St Nicholas GOC**, All rights reserved



HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



GREEK ORTHODOX
ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

