

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

January 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 Gantzos
Building Maintenance: Zisis Bellos

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
9:00am - 5:00pm

PARISH MINISTRIES

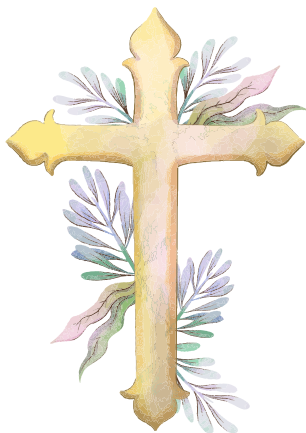
Ladies Philoptochos Society – Dee Sidiropoulos, President
Pto – Julia Balasis Maring, President
Goya – John Doyle, Priscilla Panteleakis, Directors
Chrisoula Kournidakis, Anna Zeakis-Lyons, Assistants
Jr. Goya – Kevi Langis, Maria Baggs, Directors
Joy – Kevi Langis, Maria Baggs, Directors
Hellenic Dancers – 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

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✉ info@htsngoc.org
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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Κυριακή Προσευχή

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς
ἀγιασθήτω τό ὄνομά σου,
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου, γενηθήτω τό θέλημά σου,
ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καί ἐπί τῆς γῆς.
Τόν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τόν ἐπιούσιον
δος ἡμῖν σήμερον·
καί ἄφες ἡμῖν τά ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν,
ὡς καί ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν·
καί μή εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν,
ἀλλά ρῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπό τοῦ πονηροῦ.



«Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος σου»

(Απολυτίκιον)

Διὰ χάριτος τοῦ Θεοῦ μᾶς ἀξιώνει νὰ προσθέσουμε στὸ ἡμερολόγιο τῆς ζωῆς μας ἕναν ἀκόμη χρόνο. Ἡ ἀρχὴ κάθε χρονιάς ἀποτελεῖ ἀναμφισβήτητα ἕναν σταθμὸ στὴ ζωὴ κάθε ἀνθρώπου. Ὁ προηγούμενος χρόνος ἄφησε ἀνεξίτηλα χαραγμένα στὴ μνήμη μας, ὡς ἀνάμνηση, σημάδια εἴτε εὐχάριστα, εἴτε δυσάρεστα. Τί ἀκριβῶς μᾶς ἐπιφυλάσσει τὸ καινούργιο ἔτος, μᾶς εἶναι παντελῶς ἄγνωστο. Σίγουρα ὅμως κάθε νέο ἔτος ποὺ προστίθεται στὴν ὑπαρξὴ μας, δίδεται ὡς εὐλογία τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ μᾶς προσφέρει μία ἐπιπλέον εὐκαιρία ὡς χριστιανούς, νὰ ἀνυψώσουμε τὴ χοϊκὴ μας ὑπαρξὴ ἀπὸ τὰ γήινα πρὸς τὰ ἐπουράνια, ἀπὸ τὰ φθαρτὰ στὰ ἀφθαρτα, ἀπὸ τὰ πρόσκαιρα στὰ αἰώνια καὶ μοναδικά.

Μὲ ὁδηγὸ αὐτὴ τὴν πεποίθηση πορευθῆκε ὁ μέγας καὶ λαμπρὸς Ἅγιος τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας, ὁ Οὐρανοφάντωρ Μέγας Βασίλειος. Οὐρανοφάντωρ, εἶναι ὁ ἄνθρωπος ποὺ ἐκπέμπει λάμψη, φῶς ποὺ ἀγγίζει ὅλα τὰ πέρατα τῆς γῆς, ὅπως ψάλλουμε στὸ Ἀπολυτίκιό του, *«Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος σου»* καὶ φθάνει ὡς τὸν οὐρανὸ, καθὼς ἔρχεται νὰ μᾶς ἀποκαλύψει τὰ μυστήρια τοῦ οὐρανοῦ. Μὲ αὐτὸ λοιπὸν τὸ προσωνύμιο ἀπεκλήθη ὁ Μέγας Βασίλειος, ποὺ ἐορτάζουμε τὴν 1η Ἰανουαρίου κάθε ἔτους.

Ὁ φετινὸς Ἰανουάριος συνοδεύεται καὶ ἀπὸ τὸ καλωσόρισμα τῆς νέας ἐκδόσεως τοῦ μηνιαίου περιοδικοῦ τῆς Ἑνορίας μας. Ὁ τίτλος του εἶναι: *«Μέθεξις»*. Ἕνας τίτλος σπάνιος καὶ λίγο παράξενος γιὰ τὴ γλῶσσα τῆς ἐποχῆς μας. *«Μέθεξις»* εἶναι μιὰ ἀρχαία ἐλληνικὴ λέξη ἢ ὁποῖα σύμφωνα μὲ τὴν ἐτυμολογία της, σημαίνει: ψυχικὴ, πνευματικὴ συμμετοχὴ σὲ μιὰ διαδικασία, συνάντηση, ἐπαφὴ, ἐπικοινωνία.

Εἶναι ἀπὸ τὶς πρῶτες ἄγνωστες λέξεις ποὺ ἔμαθα ἀπὸ παιδιὶ δίπλα στὸν πνευματικὸ μου πατέρα τὸν μακαριστό, Πρωτοπρεσβύτερο Φραγκίσκο Βαμβακάρη, ὁ ὁποῖος μᾶς ἐξηγοῦσε ὅτι ἡ ἔννοια τοῦ Παραδείσου σύμφωνα μὲ τοὺς Πατέρες, εἶναι *«Μέθεξις Θεοῦ»*, δηλαδή, ἐπικοινωνία μὲ τὸ Θεό. Ὁ τίτλος αὐτὸς πιστεύω ὅτι ἀποτυπώνει καὶ ἀντανακλᾷ στὸ ἔπακρο τὸν σκοπὸ ὑπαρξῆς τοῦ παρόντος ἐντύπου, μιᾶς καὶ ἀποτελεῖ ἕνα μέσο ἐπικοινωνίας τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας μὲ τοὺς ἐνορίτες. Εὐχομαι νὰ τὸ ἀγκαλιάσετε μὲ στοργὴ καὶ νὰ συγχωρέσετε τυχὸν λάθη καὶ ἀβλεψίες, ποὺ πάντα ὑπάρχουν στὶς πρῶτες ἐκδόσεις.

Εὐχομαι ἐγκάρδια σὲ ὅλους σας ξεχωριστὰ καὶ στὶς ὁμορφες οἰκογένειές σας, τὸ σωτήριο νέο ἔτος 2025, ποὺ μόλις ἀνέτειλε, νὰ εἶναι εὐλογημένο, εἰρηνικό, πλήρες ἀγαθῶν, γεμάτο χαρά, εὐτυχία καὶ πνευματικὴ πρόοδο, μὲ τὶς πρεσβεῖες τοῦ ἐν ἁγίοις πατρὸς ἡμῶν Βασιλείου τοῦ Μεγάλου.

Καλὴ καὶ Εὐλογημένη Χρονιά!

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



Βασίλειος Γ. Αποστολίδης, Δρ.Μ
Ἱερατικὸς Προϊστάμενος

«Your proclamation went forth into all the earth»

(Apolytikion)

The grace of God allows us to add another year to the calendar of our lives. The beginning of each year is undoubtedly a milestone in every person's life. The previous year has left indelibly engraved in our memory, as a reminder, signs, whether pleasant or unpleasant. What the New Year has in store for us is completely unknown. However, certainly, every New Year that is added to our existence is given as a blessing from God and offers us an additional opportunity as Christians to elevate our earthly existence from the worldly to the heavenly, from the perishable to the imperishable, from the temporary to the eternal and unique.

Guided by this conviction, the Great and Glorious Saint of our Church, the Revealer of Heaven, St. Basil the Great, walked. St. Basil was the Hierarch who emits radiance, a light that touches all the ends of the earth, as we sing in his Apolytikion, «*Your proclamation went forth into all the earth*» and reaches the sky, as he comes to reveal to us the mysteries of heaven. So, this is the nickname, Revealer of Heaven, by which Saint Basil the Great was called, whom we celebrate on January 1st of each year.

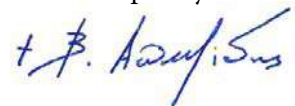
However, this year's January is also accompanied by the welcome of the new edition of our Parish's Monthly Bulletin. Its title is «*Methexis*» /mé.t^hek.sis/, (méthexis). This title is a bit strange and rare in today's Greek language. «*Methexis*» is an ancient Greek word that, according to the dictionary, means: mental, spiritual participation, meeting, contact, and communication.

It is one of the first unknown words that I learned as a child next to my spiritual Father, the blessed Rev. Protoperbyter Francis Vamvakaris, who explained to us that the concept of Paradise, according to the Holy Fathers is «*Methexis of God*», the meaning being, «communication with God». I believe that this title fully reflects the purpose of this publication since it is a means of communication between the Church and the parishioners. I hope you will embrace it, with affection and forgive any errors and oversights, which always exist in the first editions.

I sincerely wish all of you separately and your beautiful families, that the salvific New Year 2025, which has just dawned, will be blessed, peaceful, full of good, full of joy, happiness, and spiritual progress, with the intercessions of our Holy Father St. Basil the Great.

Happy and Blessed New Year!

Protoperbyter



Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD
Presiding Priest

Liturgical Schedule - January 2025

Wednesday 1st Circumcision of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea
Περιτομή τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ
Βασιλείου τοῦ Μεγάλου, Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Καισαρείας
09:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 5th Sunday before Epiphany - GREAT AGIASMOS
Κυριακή πρό τῶν Φώτων - ΜΕΓΑΛΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Monday 6th **The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ**
GREAT AGIASMOS
Τά Ἅγια Θεοφάνεια τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ
ΜΕΓΑΛΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ
09:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 7th Synaxis of John the Holy Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner
Σύναξις τοῦ Τιμίου Προδρόμου καί Βαπτιστοῦ Ἰωάννου
09:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 8th St. George of Hozeva - Ὁσίου Γεωργίου τοῦ Χοζεβίτου
6:00 pm Small Paraklesis Service to Theotokos – Bible Study
Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανόνας-Μελέτη Ἁγίας Γραφῆς

Sunday 12st Sunday after Epiphany - Κυριακή μετά τῶν Φώτων
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

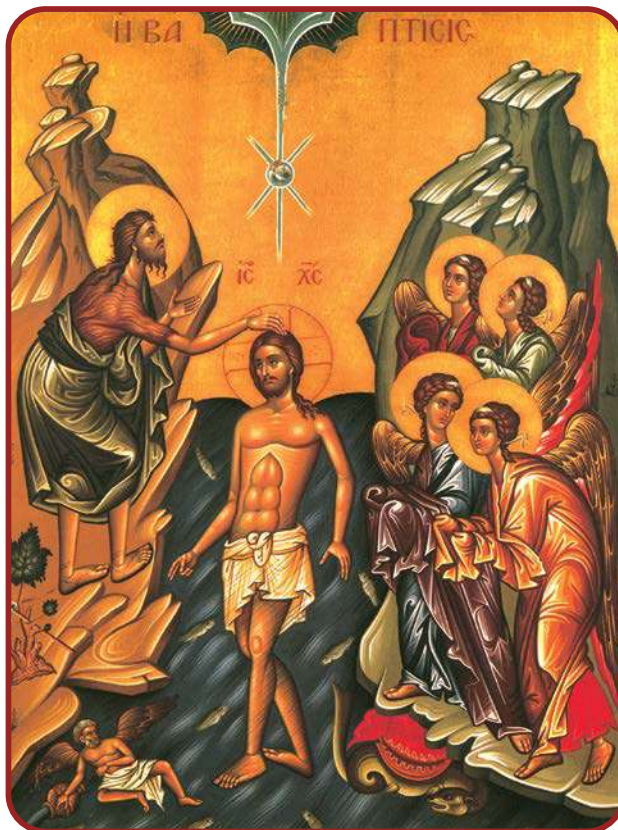
Wednesday 15st St. Paul of Thebes - Ὁσίου Παύλου τοῦ Θηβαῖου
6:00 pm Small Paraklesis Service to Theotokos – Bible Study
Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανόνας-Μελέτη Ἁγίας Γραφῆς

Sunday 19th 12th Sunday of Luke - IB' Λουκᾶ
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 22st Timothy the Apostle - Ἅγ. Τιμοθέου τοῦ Ἀποστόλου
6:00 pm Small Paraklesis Service to Theotokos – Bible Study
Μικρός Παρακλητικός Κανόνας-Μελέτη Ἀγίας Γραφῆς

Sunday 26th 15th Sunday of Luke - IE' Λουκᾶ
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Thursday 30th Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs
Σύναξις τῶν Τριῶν Ἱεραρχῶν
09:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy



ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

- 1 Τ + ΠΕΡΙΤΟΜΗ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ, Βασιλείου του Μεγάλου
- 2 Π Σιλβέστρου Ρώμης, Κοσμά Αρχιεπ. Κων/λεως
- 3 Π Μαλαχίου προφήτου, Γορδίου μάρτυρος
- 4 Σ Σύναξις των 70 Αποστόλων, Νικηφόρου Οσίου του λεπρού
- 5 Κ + ΠΡΟ ΤΩΝ ΦΩΤΩΝ. Θεοπέμπτου, Θεωνά μαρτ., Συγκλητικής οσ.
- 6 Δ + ΤΑ ΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΑ, Η ΒΑΠΤΙΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ
- 7 Τ + ΣΥΝΑΞΙΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΠΡΟΔΡΟΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΒΑΠΤΙΣΤΟΥ
- 8 Τ Γεωργίου Χοζεβίτου, Δομνίκης οσίας
- 9 Π Πολυεύκτου μάρτυρος, Ευστρατίου οσίου
- 10 Π Γρηγορίου επ. Νύσσης, Δομετιανού επισκόπου
- 11 Σ Θεοδοσίου Κοινοβιάρχου, Αγαπίου
- 12 Κ + ΜΕΤΑ ΤΑ ΦΩΤΑ. Τατιανής, Ευθασίας, Μερτίου μάρτυρος
- 13 Δ Ερμούλου, Στρατονίκου μαρτ., Μαξίμου καυσοκαλυβίτου
- 14 Τ Αγνής μάρτυρος, Νίνας μάρτυρος
- 15 Τ Παύλου Θηβαίου, Ιωάννου Καλυβίτου, Πανσοφίου
- 16 Π Προσκ. αλύσεως Απ. Πέτρου, Ευστρατίου θαυματουργού
- 17 Π + Αντωνίου του Μεγάλου, Γεωργίου Ιωαννίνων
- 18 Σ + Αθανασίου και Κυρίλλου Πατρ. Αλεξανδρείας
- 19 Κ + ΙΒ΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ (10 Λεπρ.). Μάρκου Ευγενικού, Μακαρίου Αιγυπτίου
- 20 Δ Ευθυμίου Μεγ., Ευσεβίου, Ζαχαρίου νεομ.
- 21 Τ Μαξίμου ομολογητού, Νεοφύτου μάρτυρος
- 22 Τ Αποστόλου Τιμοθέου, Αναστασίου Πέρσου
- 23 Π Κλήμεντος ιερομάρτυρος, Αγαθαγγέλου
- 24 Π Ξένης Οσίας, Ζωσιμά οσίου, Νεοφύτου Εγκλείστου
- 25 Σ + Γρηγορίου Θεολόγου, Αυξεντίου νεομάρτυρος
- 26 Κ + ΙΕ΄ ΛΟΥΚΑ (Ζακαίου). Ξενοφώντος, Μαρίας Οσ. & συν. αυτών, Συμεών
- 27 Δ Ανακ. Λειψ. Ιωάννου Χρυσοστόμου
- 28 Τ Εφραίμ του Σύρου, Παλλαδίου, Ιακώβου, οσίων
- 29 Τ + Ανακ. Λειψάνων Ιγνατίου Θεοφόρου
- 30 Π + Των Τριών Ιεραρχών, Βασιλείου, Γρηγορίου, Ιωάννου
- 31 Π Κύρου και Ιωάννου Αναργύρων, Αρσενίου

SAINTS OF THE MONTH

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | W | + Circumcision of Our Lord , St. Basil |
| 2 | T | Sylvester of Rome, Kosmas Arch/shop of Constantinople |
| 3 | F | Prophet Malachi, Gordius |
| 4 | S | Synaxis of the 70 Apostles |
| 5 | S | + BEFORE THEOPHANY . Theopemptus, Theonas the Martyrs |
| 6 | M | + HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD |
| 7 | T | + Synaxis of St. John the Baptist |
| 8 | W | George the Chozebite, Dominica |
| 9 | T | Polyeutus the Martyr, Eustratius |
| 10 | F | Gregory of Nyssa, Domitian of Melitini |
| 11 | S | Theodosius, Agapius |
| 12 | S | + AFTER THEOPHANY . Tatiana, Efthasia, Mertius the Martyr |
| 13 | M | Hermylus and Stratonikus, Maximus |
| 14 | T | Agnes the Martyr, Nina maryr |
| 15 | W | Paul of Thebes, John Kalyvitis, Pansofius |
| 16 | T | Veneration of the Chains of St. Peter |
| 17 | F | + Anthony the Great , George of Ioannina |
| 18 | S | + Athanasius and Cyril Patr. of Alexandria |
| 19 | S | + 12TH SUN OF LUKE (10 Lepers) . Mark of Ephesus, Makarius |
| 20 | M | Efthimius the Great, Eusebius, Zaharias |
| 21 | T | Maximus, Neophitus, Agnes |
| 22 | W | Timothy the Apostle, Anastasios the Persian |
| 23 | T | Clement the Hierom., Agathangelus the Martyr |
| 24 | F | Xeni the Righteous, Zosimas, the Righteous |
| 25 | S | + Gregory the Theologian , Auxentius |
| 26 | S | + 15th SUN OF LUKE (Zacchaeus) . Xenophon & his family, Simeon |
| 27 | M | Transfer of the Relics of St. John Chrysostom |
| 28 | T | Ephraim, Palladios, James |
| 29 | W | + Transfer of Relics of St. Ignatius |
| 30 | T | + The Three Hierarchs: Basil, Gregory, John Chrysostom |
| 31 | F | Cyrus and John the Unmercenaries, Arsenius |

ORTHODOX STUDIES

THE GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS

The Great Blessing of the Waters is the name we give the service which is celebrated twice a year (5 and 6 January) in commemoration of the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan. The Small Blessing of the Waters is usually held in churches on the 1st of each month and at various other public events (the foundation of a house, the opening of a shop, the inauguration of public works and so on). It's a mistake to think that the blessing on the eve of Theophany is the Small Blessing and that of the day itself is the Great. The service of the Great Blessing of the Waters is held on both these days.

The celebration of the Great Blessing of the Waters on the eve of Theophany is a relatively recent innovation, in order to serve the needs of the faithful. It's also linked to the custom of priests visiting the houses of their parishioners to sprinkle holy water on the eve of the feast.

The sanctification prayer at the Great Blessing ('Make it a source of incorruption, a gift for sanctification, a redemption for sins, a remedy for maladies, a ruination for demons, unapproachable to the adverse powers, replete with angelic power, so that all who drink and receive it may have it for the purification of their souls and bodies, for the healing of sufferings, for the sanctification of homes and for all appropriate benefit'), makes it clear that 'through consumption and sprinkling', we believe that 'we are sanctified and purified of our sins'. It protects us from the devil's attacks, heals our sicknesses and grants us health. With it we sanctify our houses, and all animal and plant life. Through the Grace of the Holy Spirit, it acts upon all things animate, and even inanimate, transforming and sanctifying them. It cleanses and sanctifies His faithful servants and the whole of nature.

Great Holy Water is a powerful means of healing – a medication given in exceptional circumstances. When it is sprinkled, evil spirits are expelled; everyday, venial sins are forgiven, that is demonic fantasies and obnoxious thoughts; maladies are cured and spiritual and bodily health is restored. In short, those who drink it are sanctified and blessed. This is why it can be kept at home, with all due care and respect, and we can drink it in times of sickness or to ward off evil forces.

VASILOPITA 2025

The cutting of the “**Vasilopita**” will take place this year on **Sunday, January 12th**, at the end of the Divine Liturgy. As we receive a portion of the “Vasilopita” it is customary to offer a donation to “**St. Basil’s Academy.**” We kindly invite the leaders of all the organizations to open their hearts and make a merciful donation to support this wonderful institution!

Η κοπή της “**Βασιλόπιτας**” θα γίνει φέτος την **Κυριακή 12 Ιανουαρίου** με το πέρας της Θείας Λειτουργίας. Καθώς λαμβάνουμε μια μερίδα από τη “Βασιλόπιτα”, συνηθίζεται να προσφέρουμε μια δωρεά στον “**St. Basil’s Academy.**” Καλούμε τους Προϊσταμένους όλων των οργανισμών, να ανοίξουν τις καρδιές τους και να κάνουν μια φιλεύσπλαχη δωρεά για να στηρίξουν αυτό το υπέροχο ίδρυμα!



NEW YEAR HOME BLESSING (ΦΩΤΙΣΜΑ)

Blessing our homes and businesses for the New Year with the grace of “**Great Agiasmos**” is a beautiful and spiritual part of our Orthodox tradition. Fr. Vasileios will be available to visit and bless your home or business in the days and weeks following the “**Epiphany.**” Please feel free to call the Church Office and make your appointment. The earlier, the better!

Η ευλογία των σπιτιών ή των επιχειρήσεων μας στην αρχή κάθε έτους με τη χάρη του «**Μεγάλου Αγιασμού**» είναι ένα όμορφο και πνευματικό κομμάτι της Ορθόδοξης παράδοσής μας. Ο π. Βασίλειος θα είναι διαθέσιμος να επισκεφθεί και να ευλογήσει το σπίτι ή την επιχείρησή σας τις ημέρες και τις εβδομάδες που ακολουθούν τα «**Θεοφάνεια**». Μη διστάσετε να τηλεφωνήσετε στο Γραφείο της Εκκλησίας και να κλείσετε το ραντεβού σας. Όσο νωρίτερα, τόσο το καλύτερο!

PARISH COUNCIL

Hello all and Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2025, I would like to reflect on this past year, 2024. What a year it has been. We had many irons in the fire this past year and there were times when it got a little overwhelming, but as we all pulled together as a parish it turned out to be a great success! We grew tighter as a community and are growing exponentially. I see many new families and individuals coming to our parish and we welcome them with open arms.

2024 brought many events to our church. We had a tremendous event for Fr. Nick's retirement Gala, many thanks to that committee for making it a memorable time. We officially welcomed Father Vasileios Apostolidis, as our new Head Priest-Proistamenos. Fr. Vasileios brings tremendous energy into the church with a lot of new and traditional ideas. Father Vasileios is very interesting and extremely approachable, so if you have the time, I recommend having a cup of coffee with him.

We had a very successful Festival this year, thanks to the guidance of our chairman, the Roussis brothers. We had a great cigar night and a fun-filled Christmas party. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in our 50/50 Mega Raffle. The Church won \$18,900! We especially congratulate the raffle winner, Fr. Alex Karloutsos, for his incredible generosity in donating \$5,000 back to our Parish. After that generous act, our parish won \$23,900. Your participation and generosity enable us to sustain and enhance our Church, and our Ministries.

What made all these events successful was not the venue but the people, our people, our church family. We want to keep that going in 2025, so please join us in all of this year's events. Speaking of which we have a new event this month on January 25th! Greek night! At our Church Gym with Live Music, by Panel Band, a Huge, delicious Buffett, Soft Drinks, and Dinner at a cheap price of \$40! It's BYOB. Come one and come all, invite family and friends, and have a great night!

I want to thank the Executive Board and the Parish Council for all the work that they do. You may not be aware of all the moving parts involved in running the Church, but this team makes it work as smoothly as possible. We always need help so feel free to donate your time and talents to help the church whenever you can. It is greatly appreciated. I thank all the organization heads for all their hard work in making our Parish #1 and the envy in the New York Region.

I welcome the new board members Frank Iemetti and Nestor Makarigakis. And I thank George Rassias and Nisa Perry for all their years of service.

In closing Let's all support in one way or another the Church and Organizations events in 2025! And let's Keep Holy Trinity-St Nicholas Great!

Love and Respect,

Andrew Economos
Parish President



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

Greek *night*

JANUARY 25TH

7:30 - 11:30 PM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

by THE **PANEL BAND**

\$40.00 PER PERSON

OPEN BUFFET, SOFT DRINKS, COFFEE, BYOB

KATSORIS HELLENIC CENTER

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PLEASE CONTACT PAULINE THATEN FOR QUESTIONS AND RSVP BY JAN 24TH (917) 932-4076



LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY



Dear Philoptochos Sisters and fellow parishioners,

Our parish ended 2024 in the most rewarding, loving, and giving way, as our organizations joined together to support our “Feed the Hungry” program on November 26th. We had an amazing team that came together to make the night a success. Our GOYA collected, and distributed clothing to the homeless and our Philoptochos members cooked, packaged, and served over 85 meals of sliced turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, corn bread, water, and koulourakia. Fr. Vasileios and Presvytera Elizabeth supported and assisted where needed and accompanied us that night to greet and bless all the people in need. A special thank you goes out to Andrews Diner for cooking and slicing our eight (8) donated turkeys for the event. It was truly a beautiful and humbling evening.

Our sincerest gratitude for all those who contributed to our UNICEF tray last month. These monies benefit the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund, which is an agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide. The agency is among the most widespread and recognizable social welfare organizations in the world, with a presence in 192 countries and territories. We are so thankful to be part of this philanthropic program.

Thank you to all our Philoptochos ladies who contributed to our celebratory dinner after Great Vesper on Thursday, Dec. 5th. It was a beautiful, blessed evening shared amongst our parishioners in preparation of St. Nicholas Feast Day.

December 2nd was our Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen. The meal consisted of turkey chili, rice, vegetable medley, salad along with bread and butter. 78 meals were served at the tables, and many took take home portions. An additional 30-40 portions were taken to local men’s shelters. God bless all the volunteers that devote their time and efforts to help those in need. Also, Project Hospitality was completed successfully on the 27th with sandwiches and salads for the needy through Bagel Depot. Thank you, Lea Tsokris, once again for arranging this event.



On December 12th, we once again had our Christmas outing at DeLuca's Italian Restaurant in Tottenville. We honored a special lady, Bernice Farrell, who has been the secretary of our parish for 34 years. May her retirement bring all of God's blessing to her and her family. We celebrated the spirit of Christmas and being able to gather once again. The Ladies Philoptochos presented a Christmas gift to Fr. Vasileios and Presvytera Elizabeth, thanking them for their spiritual guidance and devotion to our community. We would also like to thank our members, Daughters of Penelope, friends, and family for joining us. It was a wonderful night as we enjoyed each other's company, fine food, and spirits. We were entertained by a Kris Kringle grab bag and enjoyed the giving season by ending together singing Christmas carols.

The following are our events for the month of January:

1/4 Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen

1/5 Our monthly tray for Social Services

1/12 Vasilopita Sunday (All proceeds to benefit Saint Basil Academy)

Please donate to our Vasilopeta Tea Party in honor of St. Basil's Academy. Send a gift and show that you care.

1/4 Monthly Meeting 6:30 Ref/7:00 Meeting

Every woman in our parish eighteen or older is entitled to become a Philoptochos member. At present we have 55 members. Philoptochos is the second largest women's philanthropic organization in the United States in terms of money donated to charitable causes. Please come join us, as we, Philoptochos "friend of the poor" help those in need.

1/28 Cook for Project Hospitality

2/11 Our next monthly meeting will be Sunday, February 9th, following liturgy. Please join us for our Valentines' Day Project.

We hope everyone had a very Blessed, Merry Christmas, and that the Spirit of the season lasts throughout the year. A Happy, Healthy New Year to all. Conveying the blessings and love of Fr. Vasileios,

I remain,
Dee Sidiropoulos, President

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday





Wednesday

			1 Feast Day of St. Basil Orthos 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM
5  Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Parish Council Oath 11:30 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM	6 Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	7 Orthos 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	8  Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study
12 Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Vasilopita 11:30 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM Meeting with Ministries Presidents 12:00 PM	13	14 Philoptochos Meeting 6:30 PM	15  Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study
19 Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM	20	21	22  Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study
26 Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Celebration of Three Hierarchs (Greek School) 11:30 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM	27	28	29 

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2		3		4	
			JOY 6:00 PM PTO Meeting 6:00 PM Jr. GOYA 7:00 PM GOYA 7:30 PM		
9		10		11	
			GOYA 7:30 PM Pancyprian Meeting 8:00 PM		Basketball 9:00 AM
16		17		18	
Parish Council meeting 8:00 PM			JOY 6:00 PM Jr. GOYA 7:00 PM GOYA 7:30 PM		Basketball 9:00 AM
23		24		25	
			GOYA 7:30 PM		Basketball 9:00 AM GREEK NIGHT 7:30 PM
30		31			
Orthos 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM			GOYA 7:30 PM Adult Hellenic Dancing 7:30 PM		



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 **Γρήγορα δωρεάν:** Επιτρέπονται όλα τα τρόφιμα (Yellow)



YOUTH MINISTRY



JOY

Every first and third Friday of the month, 6-7pm. All 3rd to 5th graders are invited to join us as we build friendships through the activities that strengthen our Greek Orthodox identity.

JUNIOR GOYA

Every first and third Friday of the month, 7-8 pm. All 6th to 8th graders are invited to join our group that trains young adults to lead their own meetings as they plan activities that strengthen their Greek Orthodox identity.

GOYA

We hope everyone had a joyous and blessed Christmas season, filled with the light and love of our Savior's birth. As we welcome the New Year, the GOYA would like to wish our beloved community a happy, healthy, and blessed 2024. May God guide and protect us all in the months ahead.

We also want to thank everyone who joined us for our Christmas Party—it was a wonderful time to celebrate together in faith and fellowship. Let us carry the spirit of Christmas into the New Year, keeping Christ at the center of our hearts and lives.

In Christ's love,
The GOYA



HELLENIC DANCERS

Calling all youth! Please join us every Sunday, after church for dance practice. Learn traditional folk dances from all parts of Greece.

Little Dancers – Kindergarten to Third Grade,
Sunday Practice 12–12:30pm.

Junior Hellenic Dancers – 4th – 8th Grade,
Sunday Practice 12- 12:30pm.

Hellenic Dancers – High School, Sunday
Practice 12:30-1:30 pm.

Adult Hellenic Dancing – Last Friday each
Month 7:30 pm.

Hellenic Dancers
Stella Viris, Kevi Langis



PTO



Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Holiday Show. Great job to all the children and we couldn't have done it without your support! As we head into the new year, the PTO still needs board members and event committee volunteers to help make future events like this possible.

Your involvement makes a huge difference for our school community!

Let's begin the year with Love and Joy giving thanks to God for his blessings!!

Our next meeting will be Friday 1/3 @6pm in community center (during Joy/Jr.Goya).

Julia Balasis Maring,
President



SUNDAY SCHOOL

As we begin this new year, we, the teachers of the Sunday School, would like to wish our entire church family a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed New Year! We hope that the joy and peace of the Christmas season continue to fill your hearts and homes, reminding us of the love and light of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

May this new year be one of growth in faith, hope, and love as we walk together in His grace. Let us keep Christ at the center of all we do, trusting in His promises and sharing His message with others.

Blessings to you and your loved ones,
The Sunday School Teachers

GREEK SCHOOL

Αγαπητοί γονείς,

Εύχομαι σε όλους σας καλή χρονιά με υγεία, αγάπη και ειρήνη!

Ως δασκάλα του Ελληνικού απογευματινού σχολείου “Άγιος Νικόλαος-Αγία Τριάδα”, έχω αφιερωθεί ένθερμα στην διδασκαλία της Ελληνικής μας γλώσσας των παιδιών της Ομογένειας. Τα παιδιά μας ανακαλύπτουν τη χαρά της μάθησης και ταυτόχρονα αποκτούν μια πολύτιμη κληρονομιά που θα τα συνοδεύει σε όλη τους τη ζωή. Την **Κυριακή 26 Ιανουαρίου το Ελληνικό απογευματινό σχολείο μας θα τιμήσει τους “Τρεις Ιεράρχες”**. Ελάτε να πάρουμε μέρος στη γιορτή της παιδείας και των γραμμάτων, στη γιορτή των δασκάλων και των μαθητών. Η προσφορά τους στην ανθρωπότητα είναι μοναδική. Η παρουσία η δική μας, σημαντική.

Σας ευχαριστώ,
Η δασκάλα
Σταυρούλα Χαμπακη

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Presbytera Elisavet



Kourabiedes

Ingredients:

21 Oz butter at room temperature
8 Oz powdered sugar
9 Oz almond coarsely chopped, unsalted and toasted
42 Oz all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon vanilla powder for baking
1 Oz cognac
+ extra powdered sugar for sprinkling

Preparation:

-Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F) set to fan
-In a mixer's bowl add the butter, the powdered sugar and beat for 15-20 minutes
-Add slowly the remaining ingredients to the beaten butter and keep beating
-At the end add the almond and cognac and mix the mixture with a serving spoon very softly
-Shape balls 1 oz each and bake for 15-20 minutes
-When they have cooled down thoroughly, sprinkle them with powdered sugar.

Tips

We never add margarine to the preparation of kourabie, because without butter it is just a cookie!!!

Happy baking! Buon Appetit...

Kourabies resembles a snowy mountain.

Perhaps for this reason it is one of the sweet that characterize the Christmas festive season in Greece.

In colloquial language "Kourabie" is what we call a lazy, soft-spoken, or stupid person.

STEWARDSHIP LIST 2024



Rev. Protopresbyter Nicholas P. Petropoulakos
Rev. Protopresbyter Vasileios G. Apostolidis
Dennis Aimetti
Cathy Alicakos
Floros Anastasiou
Orestes Anastasiou
Stacey Anastos
Tina Anastos
Christina Andolino
Kenneth Andolino
Nestor Andrianos
Greg Angelides
Sotirios Anemodouras
Spiro Antypas
Angela Apostolopoulos
George Apostolopoulos
Panagiota Arfanis
Konstantinos Arvanites
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Stavroula Asimopoulos
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Despina Bakalexis
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Emanuel Belibasakis
Hazis Bello
Lea Bonner
John Borovilas
Andrew Breenan
Melissa Breenan
Elizabeth Brinn
Maria Calakos
Kyriakos Cambos
Edna Cardinale
Robert Cascone
John Charitis
Angelo P. Christofilakes
Demetra Christofilakes
Nicholas Christofilakes

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Fay Corinotis
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Pamela Crivera
Mary Cuccia
Michael Cummings
Aikaterini Darios
Katerina Dasios
Anthony Della Croce
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Dimitri Dimitriadis
Dimitri Dimitriou
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Christopher Dontis
Louis Dontis
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John Doyle, Jr.
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Paraskevi Dragazis
Panagiotis Drakontis
Paula Drakontis
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ALTAR BOYS

Altar Boys (Acolytes) have the responsibility to assist clergy in celebrating services. The Holy Altar is the most sacred part of the Church and serving as an Altar Boy is a great honor and privilege. If you would like to serve as an Altar Boy, please contact Fr. Vasileios.

We are very proud of the Altar Boys of our Church!

Anthony Iemmiti, *Captain*
Panagiotis N. Roussis, *Co-Captain*
Constantine Colon
Alex Diamantopoulos
Ian Fotiou
Carter Francese
Christ Guirguis
Anastasios Krokos

Dennis Lyons
Matthew Lyons
Michael Noto
Michael Roussis
Panagiotis G. Roussis
Michael Sfougatakis
Aleko Soukas



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Join us every Sunday after Divine Liturgy



- January 5th** PARISH COUNCIL
January 12th LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
January 19th PTO
January 26th DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

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

*Σημείωση... Οι ημέρες Νηστείας είναι με **έντονο χρώμα***

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Happy New Year 2025!!!

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday with family and friends and we wish us all a happy and healthy new year. Our first Daughters meeting of 2025 will be earlier this month than usual. Please grab your coffee, etc and join us on Sunday January 12, in the community center meeting room/ library, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. This meeting is important as we plan our major fundraiser of February 2, 2025 at Angelina's Ristorante.

(There will be no meeting on Thursday January 23. Please make that notation on your DOP calendar) Our next scheduled coffee fellowship will be on Sunday, January 26, 2025. Please join us for set up, serving and clean up.

Diana Kolaitis
Corresponding Secretary

AHEPA

All of us at AHEPA want to wish our parish a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Some of the events we are planning for the coming year include a **TAVLI NIGHT tournament on February 23rd at the Katsoris Hellenic Center**. All are invited to participate. Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place finishers. We are also planning to hold our annual raffle for the Student Graduate Scholarship Fund in the spring.

For those interested in joining, we hold our monthly meetings on the last Thursday of each month at Mike's Dakota Diner, 921 Richmond Ave. Meetings start at 8 pm. All are welcome to come and see what we're up to!

*We also want to wish success to all of our Church Ministries in the coming year.
Καλή χρονιά σε όλους μας!*

for AHEPANS,
Socrates Dapias

KRITIKI FILOXENIA



The syllogos “Kritiki Filoxenia” wishes you all a happy and healthy new year, dance practice is resuming January 5th and if you are interested please join us and please see the times:

Group 1 ages 3-5 1:30pm-2:15pm

Group 2 ages 6-9 2:15-3:00

Group 3 ages 10-12 3-3:45

Group 4 ages 13 and up 3:45-4:30

Also our annual dinner dance is March 1st and the famous Mixalis Tzouganakis will be performing.

Nikos Yasparakis,
President

PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION



Thank you to all who donated towards the vests for the children. We were able to supply 30 children with vests for treatment!

Next frappe night is Friday January 10.
See you there.

Philip Phytides,
President

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