

HOLY TRINITY

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85th Anniversary

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
Wilmington, Delaware



ΑΓΙΑ ΤΡΙΑΣ

Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Church
Wilmington, Delaware

The Official Publication of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
808 N. Broom Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19806 / Telephone: (302) 654-4446 Fax: (302) 654-4204
Church Office Email Address: greekorth@holytrinitywilmington.org
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm

His Eminence Metropolitan EVANGELOS of New Jersey, Hierarch
Rev. Fr. Christos Christofidis, Proistamenos, fr.christofidis@holytrinitywilmington.org
For pastoral emergencies and confessions - please call Fr. Christos @ (717) 701-1971
Susan Kelleher, Church Secretary (302) 384-7805 (home)

2019 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

George Rassias, President - (610) 322-3200
Georgia Halakos, First Vice President - (302) 379-4335
James Maravelias, Second Vice President - (302) 388-0873
Stephanos Karakasidis, Parish Council Treasurer - (856) 678-3169
Tom Karas, Assistant Treasurer - (302) 234-9090
Tom Psaltis, Parish Council Secretary - (302) 981-9352
358-8774 Marianne Archbell George Tsakataras 521-7300
(610) 358-3880 Nicholas Demourtzidis Yvonne Tsavalas 540-2891
530-2776 George Economou Paraskevi Wolcott 654-4446
584-2846 Spiros Mantzavinou Peter Xarhoulakos 562-5151

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

(856)678-4924	Philoptochos	Maroula Haralambidis, President
(856)678-4924	Sunday School	Maroula Haralambidis, Co-Director
293-1127	Sunday School	Amalea Rassias, Co-Director
738-6116	GOYA	Zoe Rigas, President
(610)864-3738/(610)864-4621	JOY / HOPE	Daphne Demourtzidis / Angie Karakasidis
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478-7864	Choir	Anthony Pantelopulos, Director
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478-0434	St. Elpida	Gus Georgiou
475-5035 / 239-4950	Altar Guild	Evie Fournaris & Joanne Tarabicos
633-1112	Editorial Staff	Dr. Costas Fountzoulas
655-2252 / 764-2183	Emmanuel Dining Room East	Nikkie Tsakataras & Tina Ganiaris King
897-1029	Holy Trinity Food Pantry	Steve Nicholas
798-3052 / 239-6140	Adult Bible Study	George Righos & John Lazare
654-4446	Special Bible Courses and	Fr. Christos Christofidis
	Marriage Seminars/Inquirers Classes	
(856)514-2227	IOCC Parish Representative	Peter Kamenakis

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525-1344	AHEPA	John Koninis II, President
322-0430	Daughters of Penelope	Nikoletta Klezaras, President
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Holy Trinity Website Address: www.holytrinitywilmington.org

ALL ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS MUST BE IN THE OFFICE BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.
THESE ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF, EMAILED, FAXED OR U. S. MAIL.

FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE CHURCH SERVICES
OR PARISH EVENTS PLEASE CHECK WEEKLY BULLETIN

From the Desk of Fr. Christos

Has the Church Lost her Discernment?

Let us first give the definition of the word “discernment” diakrisis.

“A spiritual gift permitting one to discriminate between the types of thought that enters into one’s mind, to assess them accurately and to treat them accordingly. Through this gift one gains discernment of spirits – that is, the ability to distinguish between the thoughts or visions inspired by God and the suggestions or fantasies roaming from the devil. It is a kind of eye or lantern of the soul by which man finds his way along the spiritual path without falling into extremes; thus, it includes the idea of discretion.” – from the glossary section vol. I Philokalia

Second, let us listen to what the church fathers say on the subject of discernment.

“Men are often called intelligent wrongly. Intelligent men are not those who are erudite in the sayings and books of the wise men of old, but those who have an intelligent soul and can discriminate between good and evil. They avoid what is sinful and harms the soul; and with deep gratitude to God they resolutely adhere by dint of practice to what is good and benefits the soul. These men alone should truly be called intelligent.” – St. Anthony the Great

Third, let us see what scripture proclaims about the much-needed virtue of discernment.

Discernment is no small virtue, but one of the most important gifts of the Holy Spirit. Concerning these gifts the Apostle Paul says, “To one is given by the Spirit the principle of wisdom; to another the principle of spiritual knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing... to another discernment of spirits.” (1Corinthians 12:8-10) Then having completed his catalogue of spiritual gifts, he adds: “but all these are energized by the one and selfsame Spirit. (1Corinthians 12:7) You can see, therefore, that the gift of discernment is nothing worldly or insignificant. It is the greatest gift of God’s grace.

St John Cassian makes a comment on Paul’s words. “A Christian must seek this gift with all his strength and diligence and acquire the ability to discern between the spirits that enter him and to access them accurately. Otherwise he will not only fall into the foulest pits of wickedness as he wanders about in the dark, but even stumbles when his path is smooth and straight. And the holy father continues his commentary.

Again, St Paul in another letter calls this virtue “the sun”, as we can see from his saying, “Do not let the sun go down on your anger” (Ephesians 4:26). It is also called the Guidance of our lives, as when it is written: “Those who have no guidance fall like leaves.” (Proverbs 11:14) Scripture also refers to it as the “discernment” without which we must do nothing – not even drink the spiritual wine that makes glad the heart of man. (Psalm 104:15) For it is said, “drink with discernment” (Proverbs 3:1-3) and “He that does not do all things without discernment is like a city that is broken down and without walls.” (Proverbs 25:28) Wisdom, intellection, and perceptiveness are united with discernment. And without these our inner house cannot be built, nor can we gather spiritual wealth for it is written, “through wisdom a house is built, through understanding it is established, and through good judgment its storehouses will be filled with wealth.” (Proverbs 4:3-4)

Discernment is also called the “solid food” that is suitable for those who have their organs of perception trained by practice to discern between good and evil. (Hebrews 5:14)

These passages show very clearly that with the gift of discernment no virtue can stand to remain firm to the end, for it is the mother of all virtues and their guardian. A very powerful and true patristic evaluation of the gift of discernment by St John Cassian. And if you please, patristic wisdom teaches that the virtue of discrimination is even greater than the virtue of love, for love herself can corrupt and be corrupted without solid discernment!

And now let us return to the question at hand! – Has the Church lost her discernment? And who is the Church? I have touched upon this important theme other times, no need to say much except that the Church are the baptized members of the body of Christ (as long as we believe that He, the Christ is the Head!

Have you ever wondered why there is so much error among Christians and Christian denominations concerning doctrine? Much of the problem can be contributed to carnality or an egotistical spirit (sectarian) but much of it is directly related to the fact that there is simply a lack of discernment among church leaders and other Christians in these last days. If there ever was a need for the gift of discernment it is now. But a truly discerning Christian who has a teachable spirit and is more concerned about scriptural truth than “what is in it for me and my little world” is a rare one indeed. And let the truth be told – it is difficult to find a pastor who fears God more than the parish board or whoever does the hiring and firing. A good reminder against that are Peter’s words, “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. (Acts 10:34) And James the brother of the Lord admonishes, “If you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.” (James 2:9) And again, “My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ the Lord of Glory with partiality.” (James 2:1) “For there is no partiality with God.” (Romans 2:11)

There are, however, many sincere church leaders, clergy and laity, who are doing the best they can but are far from the New Testament pattern. Why is this the case? One reason is lack of discernment. But the problem is not with God. The problem is with us, because we have divided hearts.

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We want what the world has to offer more than we want God and the fulness of the Holy Spirit, and the power and discernment to be had. "And He gave them their requests but sent leanness into their soul." (Psalm 106:15)

There is much spiritual leanness today because of Christians filling their minds with the filth and humanistic philosophy. According to Patristic teachings the greatest enemies of Christians are secularization – becoming one with the world – and Gnosticism (human philosophy). These two serpents pour out their venom hideously and without stopping through the portals of television – internet - newspapers and such like. The Holy Spirit has been so quenched that they can no longer discern the more subtle tactics of the enemy. **It seems that as the Church we have** forgotten why the Lord was manifested. We only embrace the positive side "God is Love" (1John 4:8) and forget the other purpose, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." (1John 3:8) And in chapter 4 John the beloved disciple speaks about the gift of discernment the believers must own, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God and that is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard was coming and is now in the world." 1John 4:1-3

Even professed Christians today have been giving themselves over to questioning God's natural laws or whether or not the Church of a hundred years ago wasn't a bit too legalistic on this or other matters. No need here to again numerically list them. We have done this in the past. But the plain truth is set forth in the words of Jesus and those of Paul inspired by the Spirit of Christ. We are like those Old Testament saints spoken of in the book of Judges. "In those days there was no king-leader –in Israel. *Every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*" (17:6)

Many Christians have become desensitized by listening to the enemy saying again and again concerning many teachings in the Scriptures, "Now the serpent was more cunning than all the wild animals the Lord God made on earth. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, (irony of the world) you shall not eat from every tree of the garden?" (Genesis 3:1)

Christians cannot indulge in the carnal offerings of the world and expect to be discerning. The Holy Scriptures teach that not only is there a gift of discerning of spirits but that we can also learn to discern. (St John Cassian already explained it) This can only come as we are transformed by the renewing of our minds – Metanoia – but the learning is a result of allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us – come and dwell among us and cleanse us from every stain –

And discernment being a spiritual ability –gift, one must 'throw away' the old man and put on Christ. There is a high price to pay for indulging in that which appeals to the carnal nature. And most important, there is an eternal cost that involves the loss of eternal rewards.

The only hope for the apostatizing church (Christians) is for a few Spirit-filled men of God with a backbone to say "NO" to the worldly enticements that have entrapped most Christians, clergy and laity. Thank God, Praise God, for He has not forgotten the vineyard that His right hand has established; offering to us hope through the presence of saints, always. St Paisios of the Holy Mountain, St Porphyrios, St Sophronios of Essex, St Joseph the Hesychast, St Ephraim Katounakiotis, St Daniel Katounakiotis, St Ieronymos of Simonopetra, just to name a few recently glorified by His All Holiness, Archbishop of Constantinople Patriarch Bartholomew. May God raise up even more men and women who have the discernment to see through the mist and refuse to 'play church' like the vast majority of Christians here and everywhere. The church desperately needs men like that even though it doesn't want them. (To be truthful, not only the church, but governments, nations, corporations, all types of educational and scientific systems need leaders with discernment) For history never lies. They were tortured, exiled, ridiculed for the Glory of God. The saints are our hope to slow the 'wrath' of God. In the service of the Artoklasia we entreat the Lord with the petition, "again we pray...that our good and loving God may be merciful, gracious, and favorable to us by turning and keeping from us all wrath and sickness and deliver us from His just rebuke and have mercy on us! Hear us, O God our Savior..."

And immediately after that we mention the saints and sing a hymn of praise to the Theotokos for intercession to her Son. The living saints and the relics of those who are resting expecting the general resurrection are like a shield against the enemy.

Let us remember that God was willing to spare Sodom and Gomorra if only ten people were faithful to Him among thousands residing in those five cities. (Genesis 18:32) Were there ten faithful? There are many shepherds who suspect that something is seriously wrong with the way things are, but they don't know what to do about it or else they don't want to jeopardize losing their 'job' or most of the congregation, which has one eye on God and one eye on the world. We are reminded, "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom, says the Lord." (Luke 12:32)

We need men today who will preach with a loving spirit, but will none-the-less speak the truth at any place and time like St John the Baptist spoke and let those who are opposing the truth to kick and scream if they do not want to repent.

There are plenty of good and gentle hearts around us that need to be fed with the knowledge of the truth. Did not the Lord say to the Little Flock (his disciples), "Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest." (John 4:35)

In these days of apostasy shepherds have the responsibility to speak to those who have good ears like the Lord Jesus Christ did with his Apostles in private! "Let me tell you the true meaning of this parable" (Luke 8:10-11) (Matthew 13:11)

'He who has ears let him hear, repeatedly the Lord cried aloud.' (Matthew 13:9)

Let us be attentive!

***"A man without discernment immediately proclaims his wrath but an astute man hides his own dishonor;
A man of understanding is a throne of perception, but the heart of the undiscerning will meet with curse;
A pure man is a precious possession."*** (Proverbs 12:18,25,30b)

The Presidents Letter

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Happy New Year and on behalf of the Parish Council, we wish you continued health and happiness.

We welcome 2020 with a great deal of anticipation and excitement for the upcoming year, looking forward to our continued spiritual growth, new programs and social opportunities at the Church, and the completion of the building project, unifying the Church and the Community Center. In the coming weeks you will be receiving emails regarding some of these program opportunities in conjunction with a revived Website and refreshed notification system.

In the meantime, as parishioners, we should take the opportunity with the new year to re-evaluate where we stand as parishioners of Holy Trinity and stewards of the faith. What are we doing and how are we lending our talents and assisting our Community? Are we making an effort to attend Church with some regularity? Are we bringing our children, grandchildren or Godchildren to Church? What have we done to foster fellowship in the Community -- even by simply encouraging or aiding family members in attending the various youth *and* adult programs offered by the Church and her ministries? Certainly, there is always room for improvement in these programs and the approach of the ministries, but have we participated with the proper frame of mind to enjoy these activities and consider the many benefits before we dismiss their value, let alone cast aspersions? Personally, I am so grateful for all the Church and Community have given to my family. And while the Church undoubtedly requires reverence and commitment, a healthy dose of patience and reflection can significantly aid our experience. Let's be clear, the Church, our Orthodox faith, will be there when you need it the most. However, to ensure the strength of the community and stability of the Church, your participation is indispensable now and crucial to our sustainability for future generations. The Church does not ask for a lot but the reward to our families is immeasurable.

Happy New Year

Sincerely,
George Rassias





Philoptochos Sisterhood of Holy Trinity St. Agape Chapter



Dear Beloved Parishioners and Philoptochos Members,

Greetings! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas filled with family and friends. May the New Year bring everyone their heart's desire.

We celebrated the holiday with our annual Christmas Luncheon held at the Wilmington Country Club on December 7. First, I would like to thank our chairpersons, Georgia Halakos and Dena Verikakis for doing an amazing job. Nearly 70 attendees enjoyed great food, fellowship and music. Yes, music. We had the pleasure of hearing a Chinese opera singer perform. We celebrated the season with Greek and English carols. We also presented Tom & Georgia (Bing) Hatzis with an icon thanking them for their very generous donation to our Philoptochos.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our winter fundraisers. The Christmas card and the selling of Christopsomo (Christmas bread) and Vasilopita's fund our work. I thank all of our chairpersons for their time and enthusiasm. Joanne Tarabicos for her work in getting the Christmas Card together and our dear Philoptochos ladies for the baking of the Christopsomo.

On Sunday, December 22, after the Pageant, we served the community breakfast. This is an annual event for the ladies of the Philoptochos and I want to thank all the women for their hard work.

Our January events

January 12 – Vasilopita Sunday (we are sponsoring the Coffee Hour)

January 18 – General Meeting (12:00pm)

I look forward to seeing all the women of our community at our January events.

In Christ's service,
Maroula



Kollyva for Memorials

The Philoptochos Society would like to thank two of its members, Vasiliki Kromedas & Loula Kapordelis for their offer to help our Philoptochos Society by preparing the trays of Kollyva for any family of our community. The cost of \$100 includes the Prosforon, oil and a bottle of wine. Please allow at least a week and call the church office 654-4446 and Susie will contact the Philoptochos. Your donation of \$100 (less cost), will help Philoptochos Charities.

The Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon









Our Philoptochos Ladies hard at work making that delicious Christopsomo!





and the end result...





Vasilopita (St. Basil Bread) Luncheon

Cutting of the Vasilopita Breads

sponsored by Philoptochos

Sunday, January 12, 2020

**Donations will be accepted with
proceeds to benefit**

St. Basil's Academy ~ Garrison, NY





SAVE THE DATE!

GODPARENTS' SUNDAY

Sunday, February 2, 2020

Invite your Godparents or Godchildren to Church to honor this special bond! Worship together at Divine Liturgy and Reconfirmation Service, receive Holy Communion together, and attend a special Sunday School lesson to celebrate this spiritual bond!

Godparents' & Godchildren Coffee Hour
to follow in the Community Center.

December 12th at the Emmanuel Dining Room East

We closed out 2019 with the **Karakasidis family**, graciously sponsoring and hosting the December meal on Thursday the 12th, as they have done for *many* years now. Through their charity, 120 men, women and children enjoyed a warm luncheon meal. A big heartfelt *thank you* to them and to all who served that day! We look forward to starting off the new year - and new decade! - with our host and sponsor for Sunday, January 12th! Let's all join in to help serve on that day and on the 12th of every month!

We graciously thank all the individuals, families and organizations who generously give of their time and charity to this dining room and ministry!

Various groups and individuals from our church donate the food and host the luncheon meal at the 3rd and Walnut St location. **New sponsors are needed to fill a few months, so if you would like to become a part of this worthy service project** with your family, friends or church organization, please contact **Nikkie Tsakataras** at 655-2252 or **Tina Ganiaris** at 764-2183 for more information.

Happy, Healthy New Year 2020 to all!

Holy Trinity Food Pantry

For millions of Americans, Saturday, December 28, 2013, was a day to remember. For on that Saturday, the United States Congress cut unemployment benefits. The Food Stamp program is included in the package and has added to the ever-growing lines at the area soup kitchens such as Emmanuel Dining Room, Sunday Breakfast Mission, and Church Pantries.

We are sending out an SOS to all parishioners to please continue to bring in as much food as you can and for those parishioners who, for some reason, have not as yet donated any food, please consider sharing what you have with someone (anyone) who has not, any food that will not spoil, all non-perishables are needed, such as,

ALL canned goods, cereal, macaroni & cheese, flour, coffee, tea, sugar, rice, pasta, baby food, pasta sauces, etc.

Remember, more and more people are depending on these food closets for their daily meal. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to answer the cry of the unfortunate with the many blessings our Lord had bestowed on us. Let us make our goal in 2020 to make a delivery every day to feed our neighbors in need.

Praying God's blessing for you and your families for Happy Healthy New Year!
Hronia Polla!

GOYA Events 2019



Bowling



Koulourakia
Baking





Retreat at St Thomas



Laser Tag

Πόσο γρήγορα πέρασε ένας χρόνος και ο Νέος Χρόνος ανέτειλε! Το Ελληνικό Σχολείο μας συνεχίζει να αυξάνεται σε αριθμό μαθητών και μαθητριών και να δείχνει σημαντική πρόοδο κάθε ημέρα.

Το νέο σχολικό έτος ξεκίνησε με τους καλλίτερους οιωνούς. Στο ακαδημαϊκό επίπεδο οι μαθήτριες και μαθητές της 5^{ης} και 6^{ης} τάξης για πρώτη φορά προετοιμάζονται για τις εξετάσεις της «**Ελληνομάθειας**». Τα τελευταία δύο χρόνια το σχολείο κατάφερε να μην εξαρτάται από την οικονομική βοήθεια της κοινότητας, είναι οικονομικά ανεξάρτητο. Η αγορά βιβλίων και διαφόρων διδακτικών βοηθημάτων και των μισθών του διδακτικού προσωπικού καλύπτονται από τα δίδακτρα και την ετησία χοροεσπερίδα του σχολείου για όλη την κοινότητα. Η αρωγή και κατανόηση των γονέων για την «Ωρα του Καφέ» και διοργάνωση της χοροεσπερίδας είναι φανταστικές και απολύτως απαραίτητες!

Το διδακτικό προσωπικό του σχολείου μας απλά κάνει ένα καταπληκτικό έργο και τα αποτελέσματα της δουλειάς του φαίνονται στους διάφορους εορτασμούς, όπως «**28 Οκτωβρίου 1940**», «**25^η Μαρτίου 1821**», «**Ημέρα των Ευχαριστιών**», «**Πρωινό με τον Άγιο Βασίλη**», όπου τραγουδούν τα Χριστουγεννιάτικα Κάλαντα, **μαθήματα Ελληνικών χορών** και φυσικά στην «**Παρέλαση της Ελληνικής Ανεξαρτησίας**» στην Φιλαδέλφεια.

Δυστυχώς, ως συνήθως, τα περισσότερα μέλη της κοινότητας, πλην των γονέων και συγγενών των μαθητών και μαθητριών του σχολείου, δεν έχουν την υπομονή να παρακολουθήσουν τα προγράμματα του σχολείου. Έχει επικρατήσει για πολλά χρόνια η λανθασμένη άποψη ότι αυτοί οι εορτασμοί αφορούν μόνο το Ελληνικό Σχολείο, τους γονείς και συγγενείς των μαθητών και μαθητριών του.

Το σχολείο μας είναι πλέον στον 21^ο αιώνα!
Οι υπολογιστές του εργαστηρίου λειτουργούν και χρησιμοποιούνται από τις δασκάλες και τα παιδιά.

+

**Σας Εύχομαι ένα Ευτυχισμένο, Υγιές
και Παραγωγικό το Νέο Έτος 2020!**

How fast a year has gone by and the New Year has already arrived! Our Greek School continues to grow in number of pupils and is making significant progress every day.

The new school year started with the best omens. At the academic level, 5th and 6th grade students, for the first time, are being prepared for the exams in «**Ellinomatheia**» [**Exams for the Certificate of Attainment in Greek Language**]. For the past two years the school has managed not to depend on Community financial assistance, it is financially independent. The purchase of books and various teaching aids and salaries of the teaching staff are covered by the school tuition and the annual School Dinner Dance for the whole community. Parents' help and understanding of "Coffee Hour" and Dinner Dance organization are fantastic and absolutely essential!

The teaching staff of our school are simply doing an amazing job and the results of their work are manifested in various celebrations, such as "**OXI DAY** (October 28, 1940)", "**Greek Independence Day** (March 25, 1821)", "**Thanksgiving**", "**Breakfast with Santa**", where they sing Christmas carols, **Greek dance lessons** and of course the "**Parade of Greek Independence**" in Philadelphia.

Unfortunately, as usual, most community members, with the exception of parents and relatives of schoolchildren, do not have the patience to attend school programs. An erroneous view has been prevalent for so many years that these celebrations concern only the Greek School, and the parents and relatives of its pupils and students.

Our school is now in the 21st century! The computers of the Computer Laboratory, are functional and used by teachers and the pupils and students of the school.

**I wish you a Happy, Healthy
and
Productive New Year 2020!**



Greek School's Breakfast with Santa!



Financial Stewards of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 2019

Adamopoulos, Christopher & Nancy	Faller, James & Catherine	Karakasidis, John & Vickie	Mistras, Antonis & Soula
Adamopoulos, Sotiere	Ferentinos, Joan	Karakasidis, Stephanos & Evaggelia	Mistras, Doretta
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Burpulis, John & Mary	Gerakios, Nikoletta	Kollias, Georgia	Phalangas, Charalambos & Mary
Burpulis, Byron & Kecia	Gerakios, Sakelaris & Spiridoula	Kolovos, Dimitrios & Effie	Pierson, Georgia Boines
Burpulis, Maria	Geralis, Loula	Koninis, John & Anastasia	Pittaoulis, Steve
Burpulis, Stamatis	Gianelos, James & Stacie	Koninis II, John & Evdoxia	Pittas, John
Caras Sparco, Alexandra	Giannatos, Anna	Kontis, Gus & Cindy	Pittas, Michael
Caras, Constantine & Maria	Gotides, Virginia	Kontomaris, Kostas & Melissa	Poulos, Vasilios & Eulampia
Caras, James +	Graham, Alton & Catherine	Kostas, John & Gale	Psaltis, Nicholas
Caras, Valerie	Gray, David & Eugenia	Kotanidis, Christos & Maria	Psaltis, Thomas & Cynthia
Carros, Demo & Helyn	Grigorakakis, Maria	Kotanidis, Antonios+ & Roula	Psihalinos, George & Athina
Chahalis, Maria	Grivas, Christopher & Michelle	Kourpas, Elias & Chrystalla Mouza	Raisis, Alisa
Chambers, George & Katherine	Grivas, Demetrios & Helen	Koutoufaris, John & Marlene	Raisis, Leonidas & Irene
Chilimidos, Effie	Hadjipanayis, George & Voula	Kramedas, Gregory & Matoula	Raisis, Pauline
Chilimidos, Jerry & Amy	Halakos, Constantina	Kromedas, Constantinos & Vasiliki	Raisis, Spiros
Christofidis, Fr. Christos & Pres. Joanna	Halakos, Demitris & Georgia	Kyranakis, John	Raisis, William
Christou, Christos & Evie	Halakos, Evangelos & Donna	Laletas, Earnest & Barbara Brockett	Ranalli, Anthony & Marie
Christou, Vasilios & Alecca	Halakos, Ioannis & Effie	Laskaris, Johanna	Rassias, Dion & Gina
Ciabattoni, Olga	Haldas, Harry	Laws, Brian & Vasiliki	Rassias, George & Amalea
Coates, George & Evie	Haldas, Christopher & Melanie	Lawson, Michael & Victoria	Rassias, Peter & Julie
Colborn, Brian & Nicole	Haldas, Nicholas & Rodie	Lazare, John & Sandra	Regas, Constantinos
Constantinou, John & Carol	Haldas, Thomas & Prudy	Lazopoulos, Jr., John & Christina	Regas, Sofia
Contompasis, Bessie+	Haldas-Long, Irene	Lemper, Anthony & Diana	Rentoulis, Androniki & Nicholas
Coulaloglou, Costas & Michele	Hall, Phillip & Elena	Lempesis, Dimitra	Retzos, George & Arieda
Courtis, Harry & Sophia	Hann, Eugenia	Leounes, Helen	Richardson, Robert & Stavroula
Coustenis, Robert+ & Katherine	Hantzandreou, George & Diane	Liarakos, George & Ann	Riga, Ekaterini & Jason
Cozamanis, Olympia	Hantzandreou, Katerina	Logullo, Desponia & Francis	Rigas, Elias & Potoula
Dalianis, John & Vicky	Hantzandreou, Theodore & Libby	Lomis, Dean & Toula	Righos, Christopher & Fotini
Dandolos, Dimitri & Carol	Hantzopoulos, Bill & Lisa	MacKewiz, W. Lee & Irene	Righos, George & Elaine
Dargakis, Mike & Kleo	Hantzopoulos, George & Amanda	Makis, Gus + & Anthi	Roberts, Scott & Linda
Degermentzidis, George & Polyxeni	Haralambidis, Maroula	Manis, Voula & John	Rodriguez, Angelique & Michael
Demetriou, Spyros & Anna	Hatzis, Nicholas+ & Katherine	Manoloudis, Michael & Kandi	Roussalis, John & Valerie
Demourtzidis, Joseph & Eirini	Hatzis-Clark, Georgia	Mantzavinos, Chris & Mary	Roustopoulos, Theodoros & Alexia
Demourtzidis, Nicholas & Daphne	Hionas, Sophia	Mantzavinos, Spiros & Megan	Ruhl, David & Athena
Demourtzidis, Stephen	Hondry, Bill	Maravelias, James & Diane	Saitis, Mary
Diamanty, Thomas & Sue	Hondry, Steve	Marcantonis, George & Agnoula	Sartin, Nimrah & Deborah
Diamond, Anthony & Lauren	Humphrey, Caroline	Marini, Irene	Savopoulos, Basil & Despina
Diamond, John & Susan	Ioannou, Ida	Marinis, Kalliope	Savopoulos, Virginia
Diamond, Soula	Issaris, Katherine	Markatos, Harry & Susan	Schillinger, Robert & Karen
Diamond, Thomas	Jannelli, Richard & Eva	Marusiodis, Emmanuel +	Semos, Joanne
Dickey, Irene	Johnson, Margo	Marusiodis, Kalliope	Shaer, Andrew
Dignam, Agnes	Joseck, John & Taylor	Matulas, Apostolis & Dortha	Shaer, Issa & Nuha
Donald, Maria & Bill	Joseck, Xanthy & Fred	Mavridis, Prodromos & Maria	Shaer, Ryan
Doukakis, Helen	Kalaizoglou, Apostolos & Niki	McManus, Ryan & Theodora	Smith, Timothy & Anne
Drimones, Clara	Kamenakis, Eftimia	Melissourgous, Xenofon	Snell, Bryan & Pauline
Drimones, Nicholas	Kamenakis, Peter & Juli	Michell, Constantine & Elaine	Souleles, Nicholas & Alexis
Drossos, Peter	Kanas, Larry & Alicia	Michell, Theodore & Catherine	Staab, Kristina
Dumel, John & Evangeline	Karablacas, Helen	Michell, Vasilis & Megan	Stathakis, Catherine
Eliades, Sophie +	Karablacas, Stelios	Milionis, Constantine	Stavropoulos, John & Xanthy
Evangelatos, Speros & Emily	Karablacas, Virginia	Minella, Charles & Tia	Stavru, Sophia
Evlom, Martena	Karakasidis, Demetri & Eleni	Misalidis, Ioannis & Alexandra	Stevens, Richard & Penny

Financial Stewards of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 2019

Continued...

Stout, Robert & Voula
Taplin, Michael
Tarabicos, Christina
Tarabicos, James+ & Sophia
Tarabicos, John & Joanne
Tarabicos, Nicholas
Tawfik, Emad & Soultana
Tecleniam, Berhan & Saba
Terris, Costas
Terss, Eugenia
Theodorakis, Stamatis & Lisa
Thomas, Richard & Angelina
Trikiotis, Kostas
Tsaganos, Anthony & Joanne
Tsaganos, George & Alexandra
Tsaganos, Nicholas & Joanna
Tsaganos, Robert & Kalliopi
Tsakataras, George
Tsakataras, Nikki
Tsakiris, Konstantine & Denise
Tsakumis, George & Julie
Tsaldaris, Nicholas & Bonnie

Tsavalas, George & Yvonne
Tsionas, Angela
Tsiouplis, Vasilis & Matina
Tsoukalas, Frideriki
Tsoukalas, Niki
Tsugranes, George & Penny
Tsugranes, Harriet
Tsugranes, Maria
Turley, Steve & Akiko
Valko, Regina
Valvis, Ioannis & Maria
Vande Poele, A. David & Anna
Vande Poele, Leah
VanVures, John +
Vassilatos, George + & Yvonne
Vassiliou, Kleoniki
Velitskakis, George
Velitskakis, Steve & Karen
Verikakis, Dena
Verikakis, Evangelos & Shannon
Vice, Elaine
Visvardis, Socrates & Ruth
Vlamis, Peggy

Voultis, Petros & Catherine
Wilkinson, Clifford & Suzanne
Wissman, Charles & Vaya
Wolcott, Josiah & Paraskevi
Xarhoulakos, Peter
Zaloga, Paul & Joann
Zerefos, Demetri & Tina
Zerefos, Markos & Eugenia
Ziccarelli, Louis & Catherine
Zographos, Nicholas + & Katherine
As of December 23, 2019

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the **firstfruits** of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. **Proverbs 3:9-10**

A complete list of all Holy Trinity's 2019 Stewards
will be listed in the February bulletin.
The Parish Council & Stewardship Committee
extends it's sincere thanks to all of our stewards.

If you sent your pledge on or after 12/23/19,
your name will be listed in the next bulletin.

PLEASE NOTE:

**In order for your pledge to be for 2019 it MUST BE RECEIVED in the church office NO LATER THAN
Monday, JANUARY 6, 2019**

**ANY PLEDGE RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE
WILL BE RECORDED AS 2020 PLEDGE.**

**Thank you for your continued faithfulness to
Holy Trinity and it's ministries.**



THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST

(January 6)

Apolytikion in the First Tone

Lord, when You were baptized in the Jordan, the veneration of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father gave witness to You, calling You Beloved, and the Spirit, in the guise of a dove, confirmed the certainty of His words. Glory to You, Christ our God, who appeared and enlightened the world.

Kontakion in the Fourth Tone

You appeared to the world today, and Your light, O Lord, has left its mark upon us. With fuller understanding we sing to You: "You came, You were made manifest, the unapproachable light."

Reading:

About the beginning of our Lord's thirtieth year, John the Forerunner, who was some six months older than Our Saviour according to the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvellous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred mystery of Christian baptism was inaugurated; henceforth also began the saving preaching of the Kingdom of the Heavens.



SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, BAPTIST, & FORERUNNER (January 7)

Apolytikion in the Second Tone

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Kontakion in the Plagal of the Second Tone

The Jordan accepted Your presence in the flesh and reversed its course in fear. John, fulfilling the spiritual ministry, fell back in awe. The ranks of Angels, seeing You in the flesh, baptized in the river, were amazed, and all who were in darkness were filled with light, praising You who appeared and enlightened all.

Reading:

Today we celebrate the Synaxis in honour of the most sacred Forerunner, since he ministered at the Mystery of the Divine Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ. Rest from labour. Fish allowed

Altar Guild News

It is wonderful to start the New Year of 2020 by thanking everyone for their donations during the Holiday season.

Poinsettia donations:

Libby Hantzandreou & Family: for the Health and well-being of her family
Christina and John Lazopoulos, Elizabeth Pappas and a few parishioners who wish to remain anonymous.

Wreath Donations:

January 6th: Katherine Coustenis ~ In memory of my husband Robert one year passing, January 16, 2019.

January 7th: Anna Giannatos, for a Happy and Prosperous New Year for everyone.

Wreath donations needed:

January 30th: The Three Hierarchs

February 2nd: Presentation of our Lord

Our members did a wonderful job decorating the church; They are Katherine Coustenis, Helen Doukakis, Evie Fournaris, Catherine Graham, Helen Kirifides, Stacy Koninis, Helen Leounes, Dimitra Pappoulis, Barbara Vassos, Nikkie Tsakataras and Joanne Tarabicos. We also participated in Adopt a Child in which the members purchase gifts for needy children, Tina Ganiaris was in charge of this. This is a function that we do every year as individuals.

We are here to serve you, our parishioners, during the year of 2020.

If you like to donate a wreath or flowers in celebration of your special event, contact Joanne Tarabicos at 302-239-4950 or Evie at 302-475-5035 or use the form below.

Name _____

Special Occasion _____

RESERVED DATE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

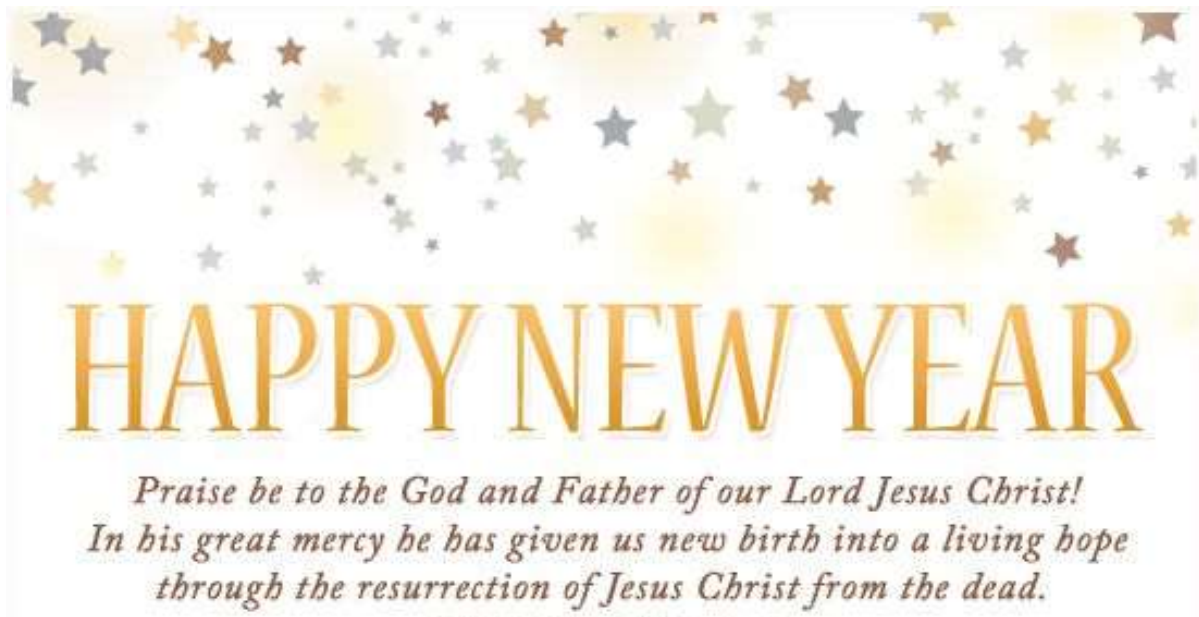
MAY WE PRINT IT IN THE BULLETIN: YES _____ NO _____

Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Holy Trinity Altar Guild".

Mail to: Stacy Koninis, 2602 Brightwell Drive, Wilmington, DE. 19810

Thank you and have a blessed New Year.



When you pray...

"THROUGH EVERY PRAYER AND ENTREATY REMAIN IN CONSTANT SUPPLICATION AT ALL TIMES IN THE SPIRIT BEING WATCHFUL IN THIS WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE SAINTS."
EPHESIANS 6:18



Prayers for Health...

We ask that you give baptismal names only.

Anastasia	Dimitrios	George	Marika	Samantha
Barbara	Doug	Jacob	Mary	Sophia
Caroline	Elaine	Jeremy	Matina	Spyros
Christa	Eleni	John	Michael	Stephanie
Christina	Emma	Lawrence	Misha	Stephen
Chrysanthi	Eugenia	Margaret	Peter	Taylor
Demetra	Evangelia	Maria	Rachel	Theophania

HOLY TRINITY REGISTRY

Funerals:

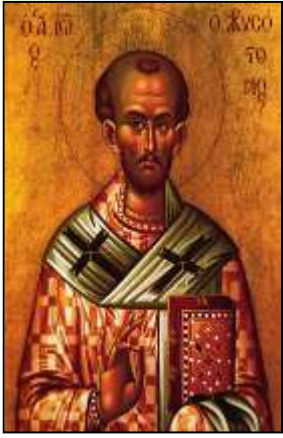
Bessie Contompasis, wife of Petro Contompasis of blessed memory, fell asleep in the Lord on November 8, 2019. Her funeral was held at Holy Trinity on November 15, 2019. She was predeceased by her husband Petro and is survived by her brothers Angelo (Vasso) and Gus, her children Nicholas (Linda) and Carol (John), grandchildren Jason, Stacy, Demetrios and Christina as well as eight Great Grandchildren. May her memory be eternal.

Elena Alexopoulos, wife of John Alexopoulos, fell asleep in the Lord on December 10, 2019. Her funeral was held at Holy Trinity on December 16, 2019. Elena is predeceased by her parents, and her brothers Steve and Teddy Soumakis. She is survived by her beloved husband John Alexopoulos, her sister Stacey "Cookie" Berman, Sons Demetri (Lauren) and Dean (Tina), Grandchildren Gage, Elliana, and Lily and numerous nieces and nephews whom she loved dearly. May her memory be eternal.

Memorials:

Antonios Kotanidis ~ 1 Year ~ December 15

Kyriakos Pentikis ~ 3 Year ~ December 29



REMOVAL OF THE RELICS OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE (January 27)

Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

The grace of your words illuminated the universe like a shining beacon. It amassed treasures of munificence in the world. It demonstrated the greatness of humility, teaching us by your own words; therefore, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede to Christ the Logos for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion in the First Tone

The holy and august Church is mystically gladdened today on the translation of thy holy relics. And though she had kept them hid in concealment like precious gold, by thine intercessions she unceasingly granteth, unto them that praise thee, the divine grace of healing, O Father

John Chrysostom.

Reading:

This event took place on this day in the year 438, when Saint Theodosius the Younger had been Emperor for thirty years; he was the son of Arcadius, and Eudoxia, who had exiled Saint John. The Archbishop of Constantinople at that time was Proclus, who had been the Saint's disciple.



SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS: BASIL THE GREAT, GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, & JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Apolytikion in the First Tone

The three most great luminaries of the Three-Sun Divinity have illumined all of the world with the rays of doctrines divine and true; they are the sweetly-flowing rivers of wisdom, who with godly knowledge have watered all creation in clear and mighty streams: The great and sacred Basil, and the Theologian, wise Gregory, together with the renowned John, the famed Chrysostom of golden speech. Let us all who love their divinely-wise words come together, honouring them with hymns; for ceaselessly they offer entreaty for us to the Trinity.

Kontakion in the Second Tone

Receive, O Lord, the Sacred Heralds who preached God, the pinnacle of Teachers, unto the enjoyment of Your riches and rest. You have received their labors and their suffering as being above and beyond all fruitful offering. For You alone glorify Your Saints.

Reading:

This common feast of these three teachers was instituted a little before the year 1100, during the reign of the Emperor Alexis I Comnenus, because of a dispute and strife that arose among the notable and virtuous men of that time. Some of them preferred Basil, while others preferred Gregory, and yet others preferred John Chrysostom, quarreling among themselves over which of the three was the greatest. Furthermore, each party, in order to distinguish itself from the others, assumed the name of its preferred Saint; hence, they called themselves Basilians, Gregorians, or Johannites. Desiring to bring an end to the contention, the three Saints appeared together to the saintly John Mavropous, a monk who had been ordained Bishop of Euchaita, a city of Asia Minor, they revealed to him that the glory they have at the throne of God is equal, and told him to compose a common service for the three of them, which he did with great skill and beauty. Saint John of Euchaita (celebrated Oct. 5) is also the composer of the Canon to the Guardian Angel, the Protector of a Man's Life. In his old age, he retired from his episcopal see and again took up the monastic life in a monastery in Constantinople. He reposed during the reign of the aforementioned Emperor Alexis Comnenus (1081-1118).



His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey

Cordially invites all Hellenic Afternoon Schools

of the Delaware Valley to the

2020 Greek Letters Day Celebration

Honoring the Three Hierarchs of our Orthodox Church



St. John Chrysostom, St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory the Theologian

“The Importance of Education”

***A teacher and a PTO member from every Hellenic Afternoon School
of the Delaware Valley Region will be honored for their service***

Sunday, January 26th, 2020 at 4:00 pm

St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church

615 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Dinner & Program for everyone present to enjoy.

Please inform the St. Thomas Principal by January 10, 2020.

**You are kindly requested to contact your Parish Priest or Principal for
complimentary admission tickets.**

TICKET IS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION



Ο Σεβασμιώτατος Μητροπολίτης
Νέας Ιερσέης κ. Ευάγγελος
Σας προσκαλεί εγκαρδίως να συνεορτάσουμε

**«Την Εορτή των Τριών Ιεραρχών και την Ημέρα
των Ελληνικών Γραμμάτων»**



με την συμμετοχή των Ελληνικών απογευματινών σχολείων
της Αρχιερατικής Περιφέρειας Μείζονος Φιλαδελφείας
με θέμα: **«Η Σημασία της Εκπαίδευσης»**

Κυριακή 26 Ιανουαρίου 2020, ώρα 4:00 μ.μ.

Ιερός Ναός Αγίου Θωμά

615 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Θα τιμηθούν Εκπαιδευτικοί και Μέλη του Συλλόγου Γονέων
των Ελληνικών σχολείων των Κοινοτήτων μας

Παρακαλούμε δηλώστε την συμμετοχή σας στον Ιερέα σας
ή την Διεύθυνση του Σχολείου σας έως τις 10 Ιανουαρίου 2020

~ Η Είσοδος είναι δωρεάν αλλά απαιτείται εισιτήριο
που θα λάβετε από την Ενορία σας ~

Μεγαλώνοντας στην Ελλάδα δεν περίμενα τον Σάντα Κλός να μου φέρει τα φτωχικά Χριστουγεννιάτικα δώρα, αλλά τον Άη Βασίλη. Στην Αμερική το όνομα και η μορφή του Άη Βασίλη έχουν πλέον αντικατασταθεί από τον ευτραφή Σάντα Κλός ή Άγιο Νικόλαο. Ο Αη-Βασίλης ούτε και στις εκκλησίες μας στις ΗΠΑ αναφέρεται σαν τον άγιο που μοιράζει δώρα στα παιδιά. Υπάρχει μόνο ο Άγιος Νικόλαος. Ας προσπαθήσουμε με την βοήθεια της ιστορίας να βάλουμε τα πράγματα στην θέση τους.

Ο Σάντα Κλός είναι επίσης γνωστός και ως Άγιος Νικόλαος και απλά «**Σάντα**», είναι μια μορφή της φαντασίας, θρυλικής, μυθικής, ιστορικής και λαογραφικής προελεύσεως, ο οποίος σε πολλές δυτικές χώρες, φέρνει τα δώρα στα σπίτια των καλών παιδιών την παραμονή των Χριστουγέννων. Η σύγχρονη μορφή του Σάντα προέρχεται από την Ολλανδική φιγούρα του Sinterklaas, η οποία βασίζεται κατά κάποιον τρόπο στην ιστορική φυσιογνωμία του Χριστιανού επισκόπου και δωρητή δώρων του Αγίου Νικολάου. Φοράει γυαλιά και κόκκινα ρούχα, είναι εύθυμος και παχύς.

Ο Άγιος Νικόλαος Αρχιεπίσκοπος Μύρων γεννήθηκε το 270 μ.Χ. στα Πάταρα της Λυκίας, από γονείς ευσεβείς και πλουσίους και έτυχε επιμελημένης μόρφωσης. Πέθανε στις 6 Δεκεμβρίου 343 μ.Χ.. Έμεινε ορφανός νεαρή ηλικία και κληρονόμησε μεγάλη περιουσία. Αφιέρωσε τη ζωή του αποκλειστικά στον Χριστιανισμό. Ήταν γνωστός για τα πλούσια δώρα του στους φτωχούς, και ιδίως όταν προίκισε τις τρεις κόρες ενός εξαθλιωμένου ευσεβούς Χριστιανού για να μην γίνουν πόρνες. Στην Ολλανδία, Βέλγιο, Αυστρία και Γερμανία απεικονίζεται συνήθως ως μία γενειοφόρα μνορφή με άμφια επισκόπου. Στην Ελλάδα, ο Άγιος Νικόλαος θεωρείται ο κατ' εξοχήν προστάτης των ναυτικών, του Ελληνικού Πολεμικού Ναυτικού και του Λιμενικού Σώματος, γιατί στον βίο του αναφέρονται θαύματα που έχουν σχέση με τη θάλασσα.

Ο Βασίλειος ο Μέγας, Πατέρας της Εκκλησίας, γεννήθηκε το 330 μ.Χ. στην Νεοκαισάρεια του Πόντου και πέθανε την 1η Ιανουαρίου 379, σε ηλικία μόλις 48 ετών. Ήταν επίσκοπος Καισαρείας κορυφαίος θεολόγος και ένας από τους Τρεις Ιεράρχες, που θεωρούνται προστάτες της παιδείας. Ο Βασίλειος ήταν ο πρώτος άνθρωπος στην ιστορία που ίδρυσε ένα ορφανοτροφείο για μικρά παιδιά καθώς και το πρώτο Χριστιανικό νοσοκομείο στον κόσμο. Σύμφωνα με την παράδοση, ο έπαρχος της Καισάρειας, ζητούσε περισσότερους φόρους από τους Χριστιανούς. Εκείνοι, μη έχοντας χρήματα να πληρώσουν τους φόρους, πήγαν στον Άγιο Βασίλειο, όπου αυτός τους παρότρυνε να μαζέψουν όλα τα χρυσαφικά και τα κοσμήματα των γυναικών τους και να του τα δώσουν. Όταν του τα παρέδωσαν, ο Άγιος τα επέτρεψε στο σπίτι του Έπαρχου. Αυτός όμως εντράπηκε τον Άγιο ακύρωσε την διαταγή του και εχάρισε τον φόρο στους Χριστιανούς. Όταν αυτός επέστρεψε στο σπίτι του ηθέλησε να επιστρέψει τα δώρα στους ιδιοκτήτες τους. Επειδή όμως δεν ε γνώριζε τι ανοίκει σε ποιόν εξήγησε να ζυμώσουν ψωμάκια στα οποία έβαλε ένα κόσμημα. Έτσι ο καθένας βρήκε, με έναν θαυματουργό τρόπο, στο ψωμάκι που του έτυχε το κόσμημά του. Από τότε λοιπόν καθιερώθηκε το έθιμο της βασιλόπιτας με το νόμισμα για τον τυχερό της χρονιάς.

Μπορούμε και πρέπει να διδάξουμε τα παιδιά μας την ζωή του και του δικού μας «**Σάντα**», του Άη Βασίλη μας, χωρίς να τους στερήσουμε την χαρά των δώρων που μεταφέρει από τον Βόρειο Πόλο, το Ριβανιέμι της Φιλανδίας, ο Σάντα Κλός.

Ευτυχισμένο και Υγιές το Νέο Έτος 2020!!

Growing up in Greece I did not expect the Santa Claus to bring me the Christmas gifts, very poorly gifts indeed, but Ai Vasili, Saint Basil. In America the name and figure of Ai Vasili have been replaced by the chubby Santa Claus or St. Nicholas. Even in our Greek Orthodox churches our Ai Vassilis is not recognized anymore as the saint who distributes gifts to children, but only Saint Nicholas, a.k.a. Santa Claus. Let us try to put things in perspective with the help of history.

Santa Claus, who is also known as Saint Nicholas and simply "**Santa**", is a fantasy figure with legendary, mythical, historical and folkloric origins who, in many Western countries, brings gifts to the homes of the good children on Christmas Eve. The modern version of Santa comes from the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas, which is based in some way on the historical figure of the Christian bishop and the gift giver Saint Nicholas. He wears glasses and red clothes, he is merry and fat.

St. Nicholas Archbishop of Myra was born in 270 AD in Patara in Lycia of Asia Minor, now Turkey, of pious and wealthy parents and was highly educated. He died on 6 December 343 AD. He was orphaned at young age and he inherited large property. He devoted his entire life to Christianity. He was known for his generous gifts to the poor. In particular, he became well known when he presented the three impoverished daughters of a pious Christian with dowries so that they would not have to become prostitutes. In the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria and Germany he is usually depicted as a bearded bishop in canonical robes. In Greece, Saint Nicholas is considered the pre-eminent patron of sailors, the Greek Navy and the Coast Guard, because during his life miracles associated with the sea are attributed to him.

Basil the Great was born in 330 AD Neo-Caesarea in Pontus and died 1 January 379, only 48 years old. He was Father of the Church, Bishop of Caesarea, distinguished theologian and one of the Three Hierarchs, who are considered patrons of education. Saint Basil was the first man in history who founded an orphanage for young children, the first Christian hospital in the world and a hospice for travelers. According to the tradition, the governor of Caesarea demanded more taxes from the Christians. Since they did not have any money to satisfy the governor's demand they sought St. Basil's help. St. Basil instructed the Christians to collect all the golden jewels of their wives and to give them to him. When all the jewels were collected he went to the governor's house to deliver the jewels to him. However, the governor felt ashamed of the respectful St. Basil and nullified his order, not demanding taxes from the Christians. When St. Basil returned to his home wanted to return the jewels to their owners. However, since he did not know which one belonged to whom he asked from the Christians to make small breads where he inserted a jewel. He then distributed the small breads to the people. Miraculously, everybody found his jewel in the small bread. Since then, the tradition of vasilopitta containing a coin for the lucky of the year, and especially the ritual of its cutting, was established.

We can and we should teach our children the life of our "**Santa**", our **Ai Vasili**, without depriving them of the joy of the gifts Santa Claus carries for them from the North Pole, from Rovaniemi of Finland.

Happy and Healthy New Year 2020!

Serving in January

Coffee Hours:

January 5~ Parish Council

January 12 ~ Philoptochos

January 19 ~ Young @ Heart

January 26 ~ AHEPA



Narthex Duty:

January 5~ Group 2

January 12 ~ Group 1

January 19 ~ Group 2

January 26 ~ Group 1



Prosforon Offeror's

January 5~ Demi Kollias

January 12 ~ Maria Grigorakakis

January 19 ~ Sophia Regas

January 26 ~ Katina Zographos



If you cannot meet your scheduled date for Prosfora please contact Loula Kapordelis @ 354-5383
We are in need of Proforon Offerors. If you would like to become one, please call the church office.



ALTAR SERVERS



Alexios Angeletakis
Athanasios Bodine
Matthew Christofidis
Phillip Colborn
Constantinos Fournaris
Christopher Kontomaris

Constantine Moutsatsos
Demetri Moutsatsos
Alexander Tsakumis
Theodore Tsakumis
Nicholas Turley
Richard Turley

JOY/HOPE EVENTS: Pie Baking and Gingerbread House Making!

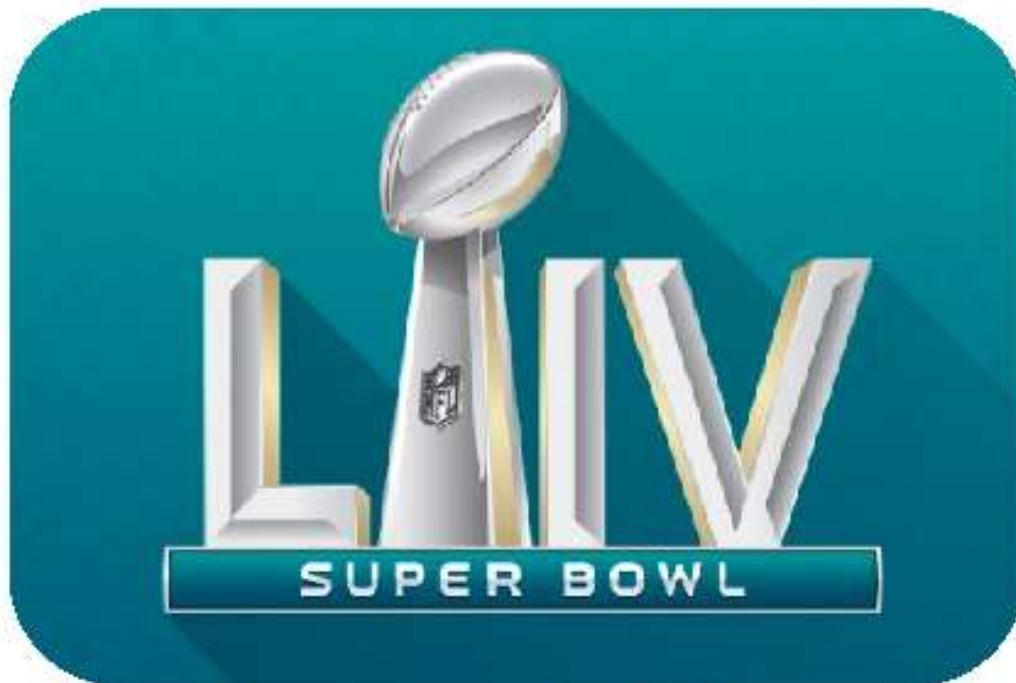




SUPER BOWL
2020 Miami

Order of AHEPA, Wilmington Chapter #95

invites the Community to join us for



Sunday - February 2, 2020 @ 5:30pm

at

Holy Trinity Community Center

808 N Broom Street, Wilmington, DE

Hors de oeuvres & Dinner @ \$30.00 (per person)

All proceeds to benefit the Building Fund

Kids under 12 ~ FREE

PLEASE RSVP by Monday, January 27, 2020

To reserve your table or spot call

John Koninis 302.535.1344

or send email to:

ahepawilm@gmail.com



The Young @ Heart Christmas Luncheon



Please join us at our next Gathering on
Thursday, January 9th
@ 12pm in the AHEPA Room

We hope to see you there!

The Young @ Heart wishes everyone
a Happy Healthy New Year!



Thank you to following who have thus far pledged their financial commitment to the Phase II renovation project resulting in pledges of nearly half a million dollars. Please submit your donor cards as soon as possible.

Adamopoulos, Christopher & Nancy	Karakasidis, Stephanos & Evaggelia	Psaltis, Thomas & Cindy
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Atsidis, Kostas & Eftihia	Karavasilis, Nicholas & Foula	Rassias, George & Amalea
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Caras, Constantine & Maria	Kirtses, Petro & Athy	Rassias, Nicholas G.
Christou, Vasilis & Alexandra	Lawson, Michael & Vickie	Riggins, Margaret
Courtis, Harry & Sophia	Leounes, Helen	Roussalis, John & Valerie
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Demetriou, Spyros & Anna	Logulla, Despiona	Skidas, Eoanna
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Drimones, Clara	Marini, Irene	Stout, Robert & Voula
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Gotides, Virginia	Mistras, Antonis & Soula	Tsaganos, Robert & Kalliopi
Grivas, Christopher & Michelle	Moutsatsos, George & Alexia	Tsavalas, George & Yvonne
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Halakos, Evangelos, Donna & Family	Papachrysanthou, Christos & Popi	Tsionas Foula & Family
Halakos, Ioannis, Effie & Family	Papettas, Vasilis & Christina	Valko, Regina
Haldas Long, Irene	Pappoulis, Dimitra	Vassilatos, George & Yvonne
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Issaris, Katherine	Pettaris, George & Stavroula	Xarhoulakos, Peter
Karakasidis, Demetrios & Eleni	Philoptochos Society, Wilmington, DE	Yiannos, Demetrios & Tanya
Karakasidis, John & Vickie	Poulos, Marika	Ziccarelli, Louis & Catherine
Karakasidis, Maria	Psaltis, John	
Karakasidis, Stavroula	Psaltis, Nickolas	

Add Your Name Here...





CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE DRIVE

Phase II Building/Elevator Fund
Your Capital Campaign pledge
will be welcome and appreciated!

_____ Over \$20,000 _____ \$20,000 _____ \$15,000
_____ \$10,000 _____ \$5,000 _____ \$2,500
_____ \$1,000 _____ \$500 _____ Other

Payable as follows with your check made payable to HTGOC Building Fund:

1st Quarter of 2019 \$_____

1st Quarter of 2020 \$_____ 1st Quarter of 2021 \$_____

Print Name: _____

Pledges to Capital Campaign/Building Fund are separate and distinct from annual Stewardship. All Gifts are greatly appreciated and all Donors will be recognized on a permanent display in the new facility.

Capital Campaign

To contribute, please send your donation to:

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

ATTN: Capital Campaign

808 North Broom Street

Wilmington, DE 19806

As of today, 74 families have pledged financial support for necessary improvements to our Holy Trinity facilities.

Thank you for your commitment to our Community!

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Happy New Year	2	3 <u>Royal Hours of Theophany</u> 10am FAST	4
5 <u>Forefeast of Theophany</u> Blessing of the Waters 8:30am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy STRICT FAST Family Sunday/No Sunday School GOYA Meeting	6 <u>Holy Theophany</u> <u>Great Blessing of Waters</u> 8:30am Orthros/Divine Liturgy	7 <u>St John the Baptist</u> 8:30am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 7pm OCF @ UD Catholic Chapel	8 12:30 Bible Study 5:30p Greek School 6:30pm BBALL Practice 7pm GOYA Dance practice 7pm Choir FAST	9 12pm Young @ Heart Gathering	10 5:30pm YOUTH Dance Practice FAST	11
12 <u>Sunday after Theophany</u> 8:30am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy Sunday School Vasilopita Sunday Philoptochos Sponsored Luncheon	13	14 6:30pm AHEPA Meeting 7pm OCF @ UD Catholic Chapel	15 12:30 Bible Study 5:30p Greek School 6:30pm BBALL Practice 7pm GOYA Dance practice 7pm Choir FAST	16 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting 7pm Vespers St Anthony, Vineland, NJ	17 <u>St Anthony</u> 8:30am Orthros/Divine Liturgy FAST	18 <u>Sts. Anthanasios & Cyril</u> 8:30am Orthros/Divine Liturgy 12pm Philoptochos Lunch Meeting
19 <u>12th Sunday of Luke</u> 8:30am Orthros / Divine Liturgy Sunday School	20	21 <u>St Maximus the Confessor</u> 8:30am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Daughters of Penelope Meeting 7pm OCF @ UD Catholic Chapel	22 12:30 Bible Study 5:30p Greek School 6:30pm BBALL Practice 7pm GOYA Dance practice 7pm Choir FAST	23 7:30pm DVYC Meeting @ Evangelismos, Philadelphia, PA	24 5:30pm YOUTH Dance Practice FAST	25 <u>St. Gregory the Theologian</u> 8:30am Orthros /Divine Liturgy BAPTISM
26 <u>15th Sunday of Luke</u> 8:30am Orthros /Divine Liturgy Sunday School AHEPA HUC Breakfast w/ Speaker 4pm Greek Letters Day Celebration @ St Thomas Cherry Hill, NJ	27	28 7pm OCF @ UD Catholic Chapel	29 12:30 Bible Study 5:30p Greek School 6:30pm BBALL Practice 7pm GOYA Dance practice 7pm Choir FAST	30 <u>Three Hierarchs</u> 8:30am Orthros /Divine Liturgy 12pm St. Elpida Serving @ Emmanuel Dining Room	31 FAST	

Ιανουάριος 2020

Κυριακή	Δευτέρα	Τρίτη	Τετάρτη	Πέμπτη	Παρασκευή	Σάββατο
			1 Ευτυχημένο το Νέο Έτος 2020!!	2	3 <u>Βασιλικές Ωρες Θεοφανείων</u> 10πμ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	4
5 <u>Παραμονή Θεοφανείων</u> Αγιασμός των Υδάτων 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία ΑΥΣΤΗΡΗ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ Οικογενειακή Κυριακή/Όχι Κατηχητικό Συνάντηση GOYA	6 <u>Θεοφάνεια Μέγας Αγιασμός των Υδάτων</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία	7 <u>Προδρόπου Ιωάννου Βαπτιστού</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία 7μμ ΦΟΠ@ UD Catholic Chapel	8 12:30 Μελέτη Βίβλου 5:30μμ Ελληνικό Σχολείο 6:30μμ Προπόνηση Μπ. Μπ. 7μμ Διδασκαλία Ελληνικών Χορών GOYA 7μμ Χορωδία ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	9 12μμ Αειθαλών Νέων Συνάντηση	10 5:30μμ Διδασκαλία Ελληνικών Χορών ΝΕΩΝ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	11
12 <u>Κυριακή μετά τα Θεοφάνεια</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία Κατηχητικό Κόψιμο Βασιλόπιτας Γεύμα Χορηγός Φιλόπτωχος	13	14 6:30μμ Συνάντηση ΑΧΕΠΑ 7μμ ΦΟΠ@ UD Catholic Chapel	15 Μελέτη Βίβλου 5:30μμ Ελληνικό Σχολείο 6:30μμ Προπόνηση Μπ. Μπ. 7μμ Διδασκαλία Ελληνικών Χορών GOYA 7μμ Χορωδία ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	16 7μμ Εσπερινός Άγιος Αντώνιος, Vineland, NJ	17 <u>Αγίου Αντωνίου</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	18 <u>Αγίων Αθανασίου & Κυρίλλου</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία 12μμ Συνάντηση με Γεύμα Φιλοπτώχου
19 <u>12η Κυριακή του Λουκά</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία Κατηχητικό	20	21 <u>Αγίου μαξίμου Ομολογητού</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία 6:30μμ Συνάντηση Θυγατέρων Πηνελόπης 7μμ ΦΟΠ@ UD Catholic Chapel	22 12:30 μμ Μελέτη Βίβλου 5:30μμ Ελλην. Σχολείο 6:30μμ Προπόνηση Μπ. Μπ. 7μμ Διδασκαλία GOYA Ελλην. Χορών 7μμ Χορωδία ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	23 7:30μμ Συνάντηση DVYC @ Ευαγγελισμός, Philadelphia, PA	24 5:30μμ Διδασκαλία Ελληνικών Χορών ΝΕΩΝ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	25 <u>Αγίου Γρηγορίου του Θεολόγου</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία
26 <u>15η Κυριακή του Λουκά</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία Κατηχητικό Πρωινό ΑΧΕΠΑ/ HUC με Ομιλητή 4μμ Εορτασμός Ελληνικών Γραμμάτων @ St Thomas Cherry Hill, NJ	27	28 7μμ ΦΟΠ@ UD Catholic Chapel	29 12:30 μμ Μελέτη Βίβλου 5:30μμ Ελληνικό Σχολείο 6:30μμ Προπόνηση Μπ. Μπ. 7μμ Διδασκαλία Ελληνικών Χορών GOYA 7μμ Χορωδία ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	30 <u>Τριών Ιεραρχών</u> 8:30πμ Όρθρος/ Θεία Λειτουργία 12μμ Σερβίρει η Αγία Ελπίδα @ Emmanuel Dining Room	31 ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ	



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