

Parish Newsletter April 2022 - Δελτιο Ένοριας Απριλιου 2022

Editors: Helen Horan Coutros and Maria Kakadelis



Orthros: 9:00 a.m. - Ορθρος 9:00 π.μ. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m. - Θεια Λειτουργια 10:00 π.μ.

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24 Απριλιου - Αγιο Πασχα April 24 - Great and Holy Pascha

Τη Κυριακή του Πασχα εορτάζουμε την Αναστάση του Ιησού Χριστου. Είναι η μεγαλύτερη εορτή της Χριστιανόσυνης. Απότελει το κέντρο της ζωής, της πιστέως, της χαράς, της ελπίδος και της αγάπης των πιστών. Ο θανατός του Ιησού Χριστού πανώ στο Σταυρό δεν είναι μια απότυχια που απόκατασταθηκε κάπως μετά την Αναστάση του. Ο ίδιος ο θανατός πανώ στο Σταυρό είναι μια νίκη. Η νίκη της οδυνώμενης αγάπης. «Κραταία ως θανατός αγάπη...υδώρ πόλυ ου δυνήσεται σβέσαι την αγάπην» (Ασμά Ασμ. 8, 6-7). Ο Σταυρός μας δείχνει μιαν αγάπη που είναι δυνάτη σαν το θανατό, μιαν αγάπη ακόμη πιο δυνάτη.

Καλη και ευλογημενη Μεγαλη Τεσσαρακοστη



Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Saviour on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. On the morrow, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested for the whole day. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulchre with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulchre, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there became as dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulchre, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Saviour was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions. Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.























Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2
					G.O.Y.A. Painting Par 4:30 p.m.
4	5	6	7	8	9
Greek Dance Practice 7:30 p.m.		Greek School Preschool/Primary Levels 6:00 p.m. Elementary/Middle Levels 7:00 p.m.			
11	12	13	14	15	16
Greek Dance Practice 7:30 p.m.		Greek School Preschool/Primary Levels 6:00 p.m. Elementary/Middle Levels 7:00 p.m.			
18	19	20	21	22	23
Greek Dance Practice 7:30 p.m.		Greek School Preschool/Primary Levels 6:00 p.m. Elementary/Middle Levels 7:00 p.m.			
25	26	27	28	29	30
Greek Dance Practice 7:30 p.m.		Greek School Preschool/Primary Levels 6:00 p.m. Elementary/Middle Levels 7:00 p.m.			
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ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Άριθ. Πρωτ. 34/2022

Άρχιεπισκοπική ἐγκύκλιος γιά τήν εἰσβολή στήν Οὐκρανία.

6 Μαρτίου 2022

Ποὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Άρχιερεῖς, τοὺς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τοὺς Μοναχοὺς καὶ τὶς Μοναχές, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τοὺς Ἐντιμολογιωτάτους Άρχοντες τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, τὰ μέλη τῆς Ἡγεσίας τῶν 100, τὰ Ἡμερήσια καὶ Απογευματινὰ Σχολεῖα, τὶς Φιλοπτώχους Ἀδελφότητες, τὴ Νεολαία, τὶς Ἑλληνορθόδοξες Ὀργανώσεις καὶ ὁλόκληρο τὸ Χριστεπώνυμο πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Αμερικῆς.

«Πάντες δὲ ύμεῖς ἀδελφοί ἐστε.» (κατά Ματθαῖον 23:8)

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφὲς ἐν Χριστῷ,

Πονάμε βαθιά και θλιβόμαστε ιδιαίτερα από τη φρίκη που προκάλεσε στην ψυχή μας η εισβολή στην Ουκρανία. Δεν χρησιμοποιώ σκοπίμως τη λέξη "Ρωσία", διότι πολλές χιλιάδες Ρώσων διαμαρτύρονται γι' αυτή την απρόκλητη και παράλογη επίθεση, με κίνδυνο μάλιστα της ζωής και της ελευθερίας. Η συγκεκριμένη επίθεση βαραίνει αποκλειστικά τους ώμους του Βλαδίμηρου Πούτιν, του οποίου η ιδιοτελής πολιτική ατζέντα θέτει σε κίνδυνο την παγκόσμια ειρήνη.

Γινόμαστε καθημερινά μάρτυρες μιας ανείπωτης τραγωδίας ανθρώπινου πόνου: στοχοποίηση άμαχου πληθυσμού, δολοφονίες, τρόμος και απώλειες ζωών αθώων ανθρώπων και ιδιαίτερα παιδιών. Γνωρίζουμε ότι οι Ουκρανοί και οι Ρώσοι υπήρξαν παιδιά που ανδρώθηκαν, τρεφόμενα από το ίδιο στήθος. Είναι αδελφοί και αδελφές εν Χριστώ. Πως είναι δυνατό να λαμβάνει χώρα μία τέτοια αδελφοκτονία στον Ιερό Τόπο της



Ρωσίας του Κιέβου; Ως Ορθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί, αναρωτιόμαστε περί του πρακτέου. Ο Παναγιώτατος Οικουμενικός Πατριάρχης Βαρθολομαίος ήταν κατηγορηματικός:

"...νά τερματισθή τώρα ό πόλεμος! Νά σταματήση ἄμεσα κάθε πράξις βίας, κάθε τι πού σκορπάει τόν πόνο καί τόν θάνατο. Νά ἐπικρατήση ή λογική, ή ἀγάπη πρός τόν συνάνθρωπο, ή καταλλαγή καί ή ἀλληλεγγύη, τό φῶς τοῦ ἄναστάντος Χριστοῦ, τό δῶρο τῆς ζωῆς." (27 Φεβρουαρίου 2022)

Με το πνεύμα αυτό του Παναγιωτάτου Πατοιάοχη μας, που εκφοάζει όλους μας, ποοτοεπουμε τους πιστούς να προσευχηθούν και να στηρίξουν έμπρακτα όλο τον ουκρανικό λαό: και εκείνους που ανήκουν στην Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία της Ουκρανίας και εκείνους που ανήκουν στην εν Ουκρανία δικαιοδοσία του Πατριαρχείου Μόσχας και τους Ελληνοκαθολικούς και αυτούς που ανήκουν στις Εβραϊκές Κοινότητες και όλους ανεξαιρέτως όσοι βρίσκονται κάτω από τις φρικαλέες συνθήκες του πολέμου.

Καλούμαστε όχι μόνο να συγχωρούμε, αλλά και να αγαπάμε τους εχθρούς μας (Ματθ. 5, 44). Ας προχωρήσουμε, όμως, και ένα βήμα παραπάνω. Ας μην βλέπουμε τον εχθρό στα πρόσωπα των αδελφών μας. Η αγάπη του Χριστού είναι σε θέση να μεταμορφώσει την ύπαρξή μας και να μας μεταβάλλει σε μία οικογένεια που θα μπορεί να αντιστέκεται στο κακό και να θεραπεύει τις πληγές που δοκιμάζουν αυτή τη στιγμή την Εκκλησία μας. Ας προσευχηθούμε, αγαπητοί μου, στον Κύριό μας για την ειρήνη.

Μετὰ τῆς πατρικῆς ἐν Κυρίω Ἰησοῦ Χριστῷ ἀγάπης,

† ό Αμερικής Έλπιδοφόρος

16 Ареста Жундофосо



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

ARCHIEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 34/2022

Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Invasion of Ukraine

March 6, 2022

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America.

Πάντες δὲ ὑμεῖς ἀδελφοί ἐστε. (κατὰ Ματθαῖον 23:8) All of you are brothers and sisters. (Matthew 23:8)

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We find ourselves in deep pain and sorrow of soul over the horror that has ensued from the invasion of Ukraine. I do not say, "Russia," because many thousands of the Russian People are protesting this unprovoked and unreasonable attack at risk to their own lives and freedom. This attack must be squarely set upon the shoulders of Vladimir Putin, who is risking global peace for his own selfish political agenda.

We are witnessing an immense tragedy of human suffering: the targeting of civilians, assassination and terror, and the deaths of innocents, especially children. Yet, we know that Ukrainians and Russians are children nourished from the same breast. They are brothers and sisters in Christ. How is it possible that such a fratricide is taking place on the Holy Ground of Kyivan Rus'? As Orthodox Christians, we ask ourselves: what can we do? His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has been unequivocal:



...end the war now! Immediately stop any act of violence, anything that spreads pain and death. Let reason prevail, love for fellow human beings, reconciliation and solidarity, the light of the Risen Christ, the gift of life. (February 27, 2022)

We join our spirit to the spirit of His All-Holiness and exhort all our Faithful: offer prayers and tangible support for all the Ukrainian People: those of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and those of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church under the Moscow Patriarchate, those of the Ukrainian Catholic and Jewish communities, and all who find themselves in the dire circumstances of war.

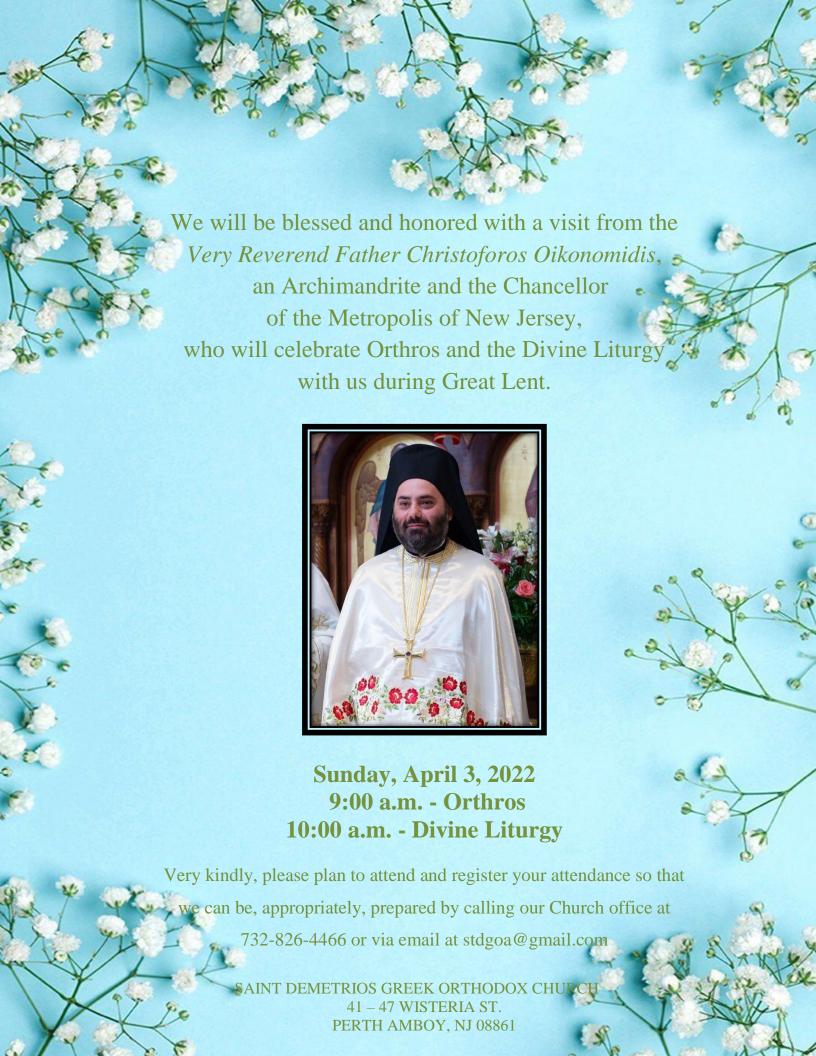
We are called not only to forgive our enemies, but to love our enemies (Matt. 5:44). But let us go one step further. Let us see no enemy in any of our brothers and sisters. The love of Christ can transform us into the one family that will be able to resist evil, and bring healing to the wounds that our Church is suffering at this very moment. For peace, my beloved, let us pray to the Lord.

With paternal love in the Lord Jesus Christ,

to Aprenias Lyndopoeos

† ELPIDOPHOROS

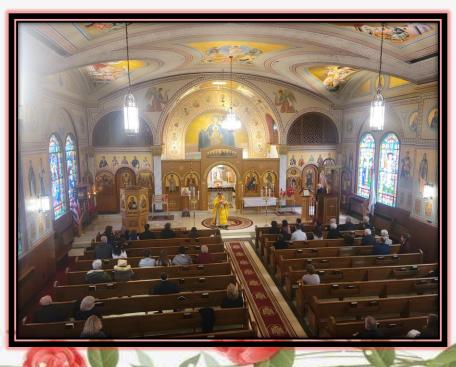
Archbishop of America





Icons.









Herculean Team Demolition of AC Unit

Extremely early on Saturday morning, March 5, 2022, several gentleman from our parish council, plus, parishioners and our maintenance manager, gathered together to demolish and dispose of our 20 year old air conditioning unit which was in complete disrepair but served us very well over the years. The time has come for our new air conditioning system to be installed with sincerest gratitude to our very generous donors who made it a financial possibility. We will continue to follow the progress in our next newsletter editions as our team works to replace the roof of the boiler room which will become the base to support the new unit. We cannot be more proud of and thankful to our Herculean Team, Nick Giannakopoulos, Spero Kalambakas, George Kane, Mike Koudis, Ruben Morales, Mattheos Rizitis, Demosthenis Simatos, Dimitri Tsivelis!











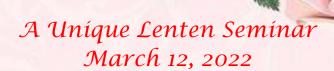












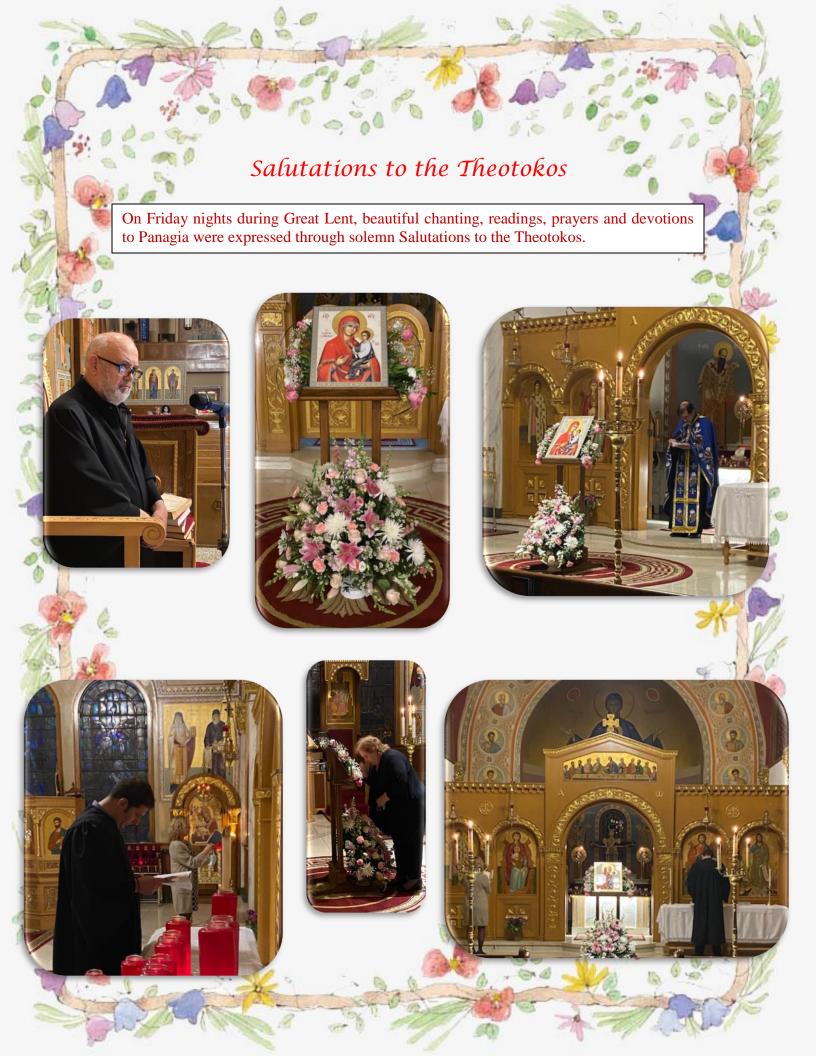
On a snowy, wintry day, following our Saturday of Souls Service on March 12, 2022, it was our pleasure to have an original presentation hosted by Presbytera Sharon Rubis entitled "Orthodox Funeral Perspectives, In Light of the Resurrection." The presentation concentrated on our understanding of death, Orthodox practices and traditions, secular influences and the ethos of contemporary culture surrounding this final decision.

Presbytera Sharon's presentation kept the audience of 30 parishioners and guests, who attended despite the weather, very engaged and interested as she informed us of this unique perspective, the advent of our traditions and practices that our Orthodox families follow and the meaning and symbolism that they represent. An enlightening discussion followed including responses from our honored panelists, V. Rev. Father Nektarios Cottros of Piscataway, Rev. Protopresbyter Paul Pappas of Toms River and our very own Rev. Father Gregory Rubis.

A delicious Lenten Luncheon was hosted by Presbytera Sharon prior to the seminar which was enjoyed by all participants and allowed them time to visit and mingle beforehand.

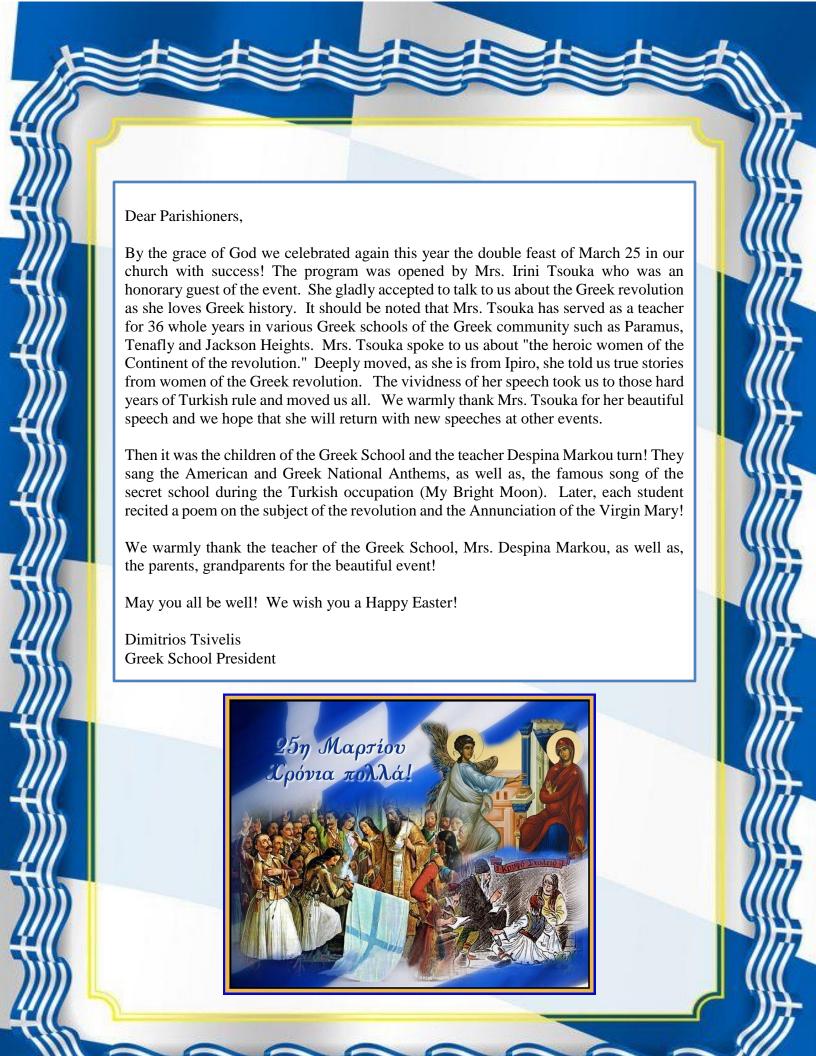
We are so, truly, appreciative to Presbytera Sharon for this wonderful opportunity that she offered us. We, also, wish to express our sincerest gratitude to our guest panelists who provided their valued views, explanations and insights into this unique and thought provoking topic.













ZHTΩ H 25_H MAPTIOY 1821







ZHTΩ H 25_H MAPTIOY 1821







Sunday School

The brilliant smiles on the faces of our Sunday School students show their enthusiasm to work on their Pascha Passports. As the children attend our Lenten services, they receive a special Icon stamp that is placed in their individual Pascha Passports. This project encourages our children to attend as many services as possible during Great Lent while they, simultaneously, learn about the importance of each service and the symbolism that each Icon stamp represents.

May all our children and their families be blessed as we all journey through Great Lent together through prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Kali Sarakosti to all our Saint Demetrios families.







We hope that everyone is enjoying the reflective time of Lent. The Goyans would like to thank all of you for supporting them during their Sights and Sounds competition. A special thanks to all of those that contributed to or attended the spaghetti lunch. A reminder that G.O.Y.A. parents are hosting a fun afternoon "Paint and Sip" on April 2nd. Please spread the word to family and friends! The appetizers will be Lenten appropriate! The Goyans will also be selling decorative Lambades during Holy Week so please look for us in the Church Narthex. We wish all of you a joyful Easter!





















Well-done!



Join us for A Painting Party

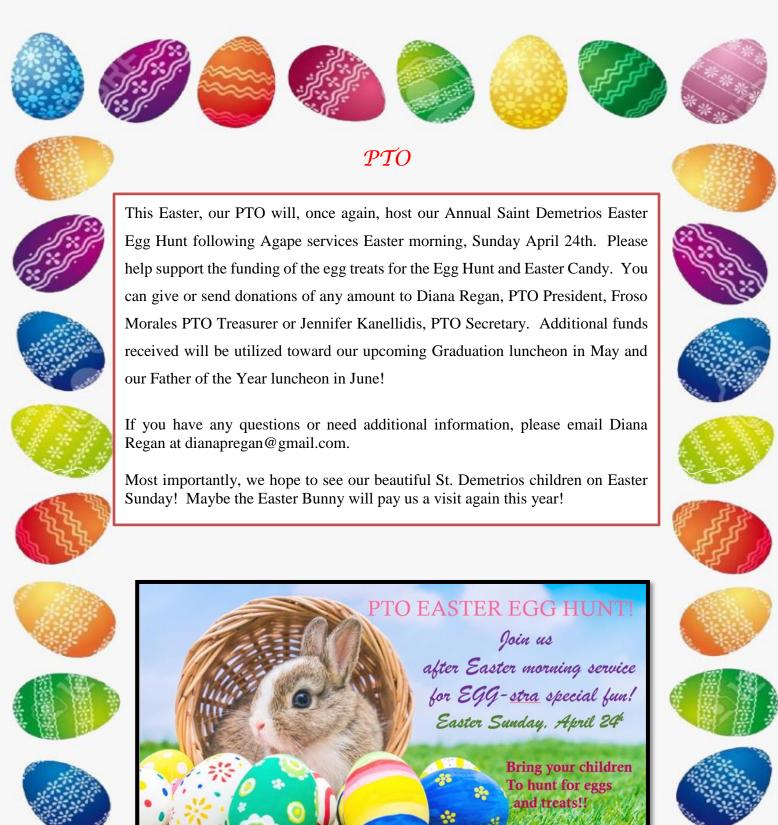
Saturday April 2nd 4:30 PM Church Hall \$40

All 16 and older are welcome to paint! No experience is necessary. Light refreshments provided.

Wine available for adults 21 + over.



All proceeds will benefit the Perth Amboy GOYA costume fund.
For questions or RSVP: Contact
Cyndi Giannakopoulos 732-735-7531 or
Jennifer Simatos 732-343-2266















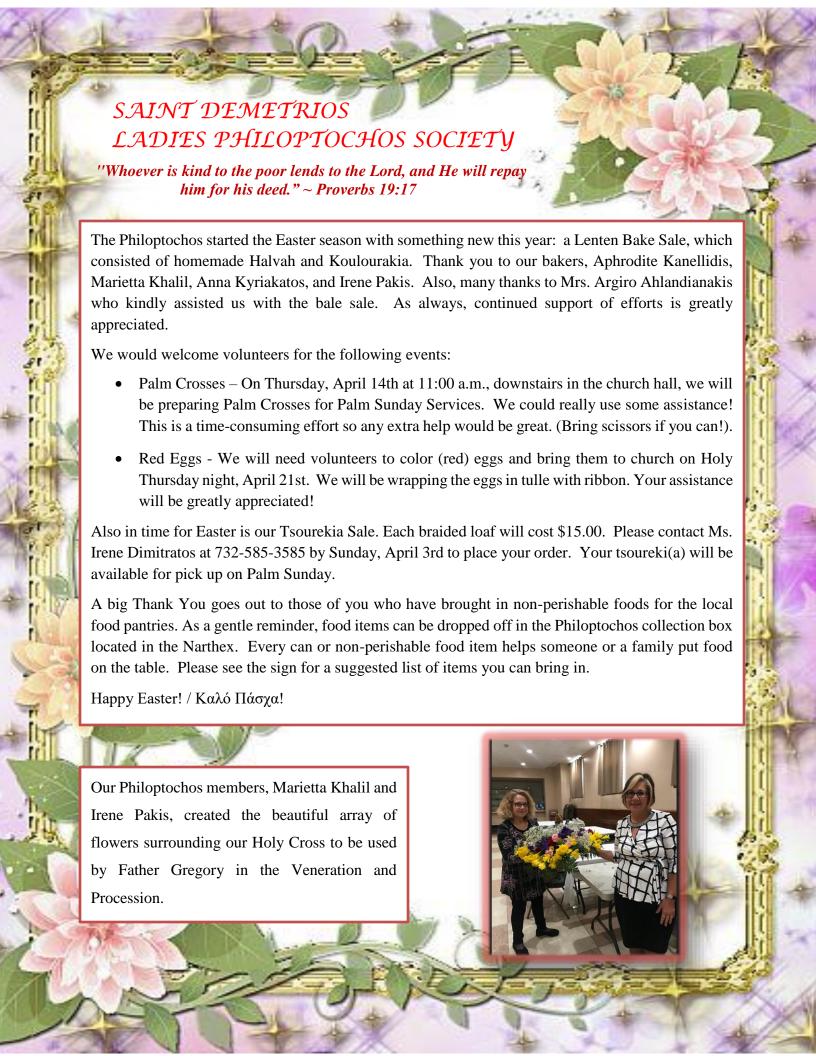












Outdoor Fun



































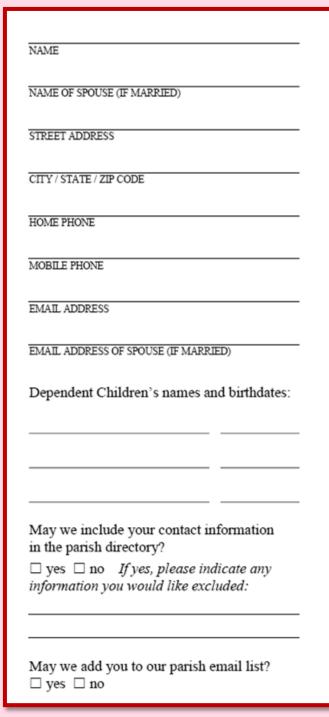
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Stewardship 2022





Christian Stewardship is...

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

... caring for the needs of others.

... offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

... what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

... devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

Light A Candle...Say A Prayer...Virtual Tray Donation

"I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light of life." (John 8:12)

You can request a red glass candle to be lit with a blessing and a prayer. Each red candle is a \$10.00 donation. Candles will be lit during the Divine Liturgy. A donation can be made through the website, but a call or email would be necessary to make the request. Donations go directly to funding the day to day operations of Saint Demetrios Church.

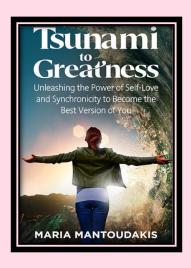
Requests can be made via Saint Demetrios' website: http://www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org/ or you can mail a check to the church:



Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church 41-47 Wisteria Street Perth Amboy, NJ 08861



Thank you for supporting our church.

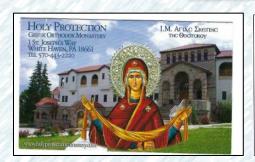


"Tsunami to Greatness" will propel you into a journey of self-love, understanding of universal laws, and peace of knowing that the synchronicity of the Universe results in self-evolution, and greatness.

To purchase the book, please use the link below:

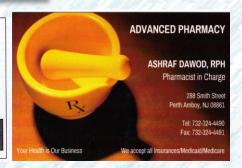
<u>Tsunami to Greatness: Unleashing the Power of Self-Love and Synchronicity to Become the Best Version of You</u>

Thank You To Our Sponsors!





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tel:732.750.0500

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