

*Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church*  
*Ελληνική Ορθόδοξος Εκκλησία Αγίου Δημητρίου*

*Parish Newsletter Summer 2022 - Δελτίο Ενορίας - Καλοκαίρινο 2022*

*Editors: Helen Horan Coutros and Maria Kakadelis*



**Orthros: 9:00 a.m. - Ορθρος 9:00 π.μ.    Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m. - Θεία Λειτουργία 10:00 π.μ.**

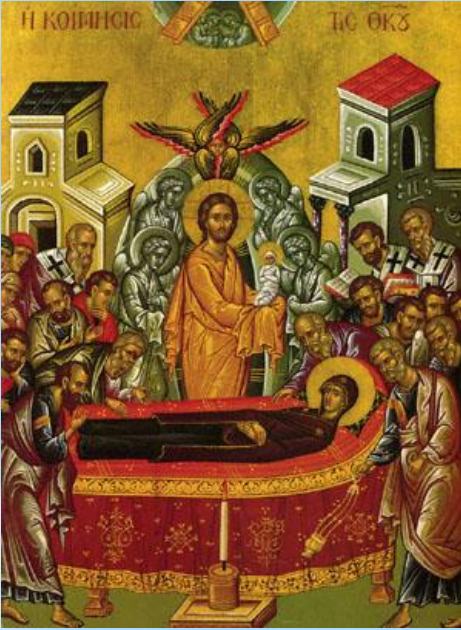
**Father Gregory Rubis  
41-47 Wisteria Street  
Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861  
Tel.: (732) 826-4466  
Fax: (732) 826-4312  
E-Mail: stdgoa@gmail.com**

**Visit us at: [www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org](http://www.stdemetriosperthamboy.org)**

## Κοιμησης της Υπεραγιας Θεοτοκου

### *The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary*

15 Αυγούστου - August 15



When the time drew night that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the

ends of the earth, and brought them, at once, to the house of the Mother of God. She blessed the Apostles, and reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God. The Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulchre, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried her there with honor, the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens.



## Η Υψωσις του Τιμιου Σταυρου

### *The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross*

14 Σεπτεμβριου - September 14



Σημερα ο Σταυρος ανυψωνεται και ολοκληρη η κτιση Του απελευθερωνεται απο τη φθορα.

Η Αγια Ελενη πηγε στους Αγιους Τοπους να προσκυνησει και να ευχαριστησει τον Κυριο για τους θριαμβους του γιου της, Μεγαλου Κωνσταντινου, ο οποίος ειχε συνειδηση οτι η νικη του επηλθε λογω της φανερωσης του σημειου του Τιμιου Σταυρου, τον οποιο ειδε στον ουρανο. Φθανοντας στο Γολγοθα, διαταξε να σκαψουν το μερος, απο το οποιο ανασυρθηκαν τρεις σταυροι. Μη γνωριζοντας ποιος ειναι ο Τιμιος Σταυρος, ο επισκοπος Ιεροσολυμων Μακαριος ακουμπησε το σωμα μιας ευσεβεστατης νεκρης γυναικας διαδοχικα στους τρεις σταυρους. Μολις το νεκρο σωμα της γυναικας ακουμπησε τον Τιμιο Σταυρο, αναστηθηκε.

Τοτε, η Αγια Ελενη προσκυνησε το Ζωοποιο Σταυρο. Στη συνεχεια ο επισκοπος ανεβηκε στον αμβωνα και σηκωσε με τα δυο του χερια τον Τιμιο Σταυρο, φανερωνοντας τον σε ολους τους χριστιανους, οι οποιοι μ'ενα στομα φωναζαν το «Κυριε ελεησον». Απο τοτε, οι Αγιοι Πατερες ορισαν να γιορταζεται η Παγκοσμια Υψωση του Τιμιου Σταυρου, για να δοξάζεται ο Χριστος που σταυρωθηκε σ'αυτον.

Σημερα επιτελειται αναμνηση και του γεγονοτος οταν ο αυτοκρατορας Ηρακλειτος παρεδωσε τον Τιμιο Σταυρο στο ναο της Αναστασεως, μετα απο λιτανεια στην οποια ελαβε μερος ανυποδητος και ντυμενος ταπεινα. Τον Τιμιο Σταυρο παρελαβε ο Πατριαρχεις Ζαχαριας και ολοι μαζι εψαλλαν το τροπαριο «Σωσον, Κυριε, τον λαον σου και ευλογησον την κληρονομιαν σου νικας τοις Βασιλευσι κατα βαρβαρων δωρουμενος και το σον φυλαττων δια του Σταυρου σου πολιτευμα».

Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. A temple to Aphrodite had been raised up by the Emperor Hadrian upon Golgotha, to defile and cover with oblivion the place where the saving Passion had been suffered. The venerable Helen had the statue of Aphrodite destroyed, and the earth removed, revealing the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses. Of these, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high by Archbishop Macarius of Jerusalem; as he stood on the ambo, and when the people beheld it, they cried out, "Lord have mercy." It should be noted that after its discovery, a portion of the venerable Cross was taken to Constantinople as a blessing. The rest was left in Jerusalem in the magnificent church built by Saint Helen, until the year 614. At that time, the Persians plundered Palestine and took the Cross to their own country. Late, in the year 628, Emperor Heraclius set out on a military campaign, retrieved the Cross, and after bringing it to Constantinople, himself escorted it back to Jerusalem, where he restored it to its place. Rest from labour. A Fast is observed today, whatever day of the week it may be.

## *Message from Father Gregory*



Dear Parishioners:

This note was penned the day after the festival and the day before summer. We await the results of each. If you were absent from the festival, a BIG project, then you saved yourself some effort but that was more than offset by what you missed. That is not being detailed here but, just last night the teamwork, speed and kindness of the volunteers in disassembling and removing grills, fryers, tents, wiring, tables, cash registers and chairs, among other things, were remarkable, this after three days of toil in heat and cold. Our volunteers and the festival had an impact - even the visitors were happy and polite!

Some of us are reluctant to undertake a project or even continue one already begun, even when it would benefit us. We say “yes” but our actions show “no.” We are called to follow Christ and we say “yes” each year by writing a check to remain a member of Saint Demetrios in Perth Amboy but that is where it ends. Our project doesn’t advance. The seasons come and go. We have saved some effort but don’t know what we are missing.

This has nothing to do with summer or the festival but surely life is ironic for those who toil for some things that go away and fail to toil for something infinitely greater that does not.

Καλό καλοκαίρι!

In Him,  
Father Gregory



# Ιουλιος - July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
31						
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						

# Αυγουστος - August

## 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
						Transfiguration Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Orthros 9:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Orthros 9:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.	The Dormition of Theotokos					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Orthros 9:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
28	29	30	31			
Orthros 9:00 a.m.  Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						

# Σεπτέμβριος – September

## 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.				Nativity		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.			Elevation of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Orthros 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.						



## *President's Message/Parish Council News*

The month of May was a very active month for our beloved community: Indoor Olympics, Clergy Laity at the Venetian in Garfield NJ and, Ministry Awards, Mother's Day, Clergy Laity at Waterfall Restaurant, Wilmington, Delaware, Graduation Day, General Meeting and Outdoor Olympics, to name a few major events.

Maintenance activities: The Parish Council and other church members helped to replace the aging roof of the boiler room, demolished and discarded the existing air conditioning unit. The new HVAC unit was installed. The entire project cost \$40,700, which \$36,000 was donated by parish members.

Due to the depleting funds, we had to organize (2) separate festivals this year and participate on the 4th of July city wide celebration event at the Perth Amboy Waterfront. The 4th of July event will be on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first festival was June 17, 18 & 19. The September festival dates have not been selected yet. However, since our Saint Demetrios family is small in number compared to neighboring parishes, our volunteers are "one and the same" for all of the above events, church repairs and youth activities. I would ask you kindly to help us in any way possible (physical volunteering, monetary support, baking foods and/or pastries) or by purchasing goods and ingredients related to these events. Some of our generous food donors are the Barge, the New Coney Island Restaurants in Perth Amboy, Evan's Restaurant in Matawan and Marco Polo Restaurant in Summit. Other donors are local diners and restaurants including The Greek Store in Kenilworth. All monetary donations should be either a business or personal check made out to Saint Demetrios Church with a note "September Festival". Monetary donations are for chicken for souvlakia; pork for souvlakia; plastic blue & white checkered tablecloths; Greek Wine and Greek Beer.

### Final Thoughts:

1. Besides honoring the achievements of our immediate youth members of our community, let's not forget one more young person whose family currently resides in Florida, Paige Ahladianakis, as she obtained a bachelor's degree in the Biomedical Engineering field from the University of Hawaii Pacific.
2. A message from a previous member of our community: "My warm wishes to the entire Saint Demetrios Family. Hope you have a very successful festival." – George Petrakakis
3. Sadly, Helen Catelanos' house was destroyed by a devastating fire while she was hospitalized for a medical procedure at the New Brunswick Hospital. Currently, Helen is doing well and is recuperating at her Granddaughter's home. We wish Helen a quick recovery and we would like to extend a helping hand to her by any means.

With all of our love,  
President George Kane and Parish Council Members

## *Newsletter Editors*



# *Thank You*

Dearest Parishioners,

As the Editors of the newsletter, for our Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, we would like to thank you all for your support, your submissions and wonderful pictures you have sent us over the years. Our long journey of 7 plus years as Editors has come to an end. It was our pleasure to publish the newsletter for the Church community.

*Helen and Maria*

## Κυριακή των Βαΐων *Palm Sunday*

Την Κυριακή των Βαΐων η εκκλησία του Αγίου Δημητρίου γέμισε με πολλούς ενορίτες. Ο πατέρας Γρηγόριος τέλεσε την ομορφή λειτουργία της Κυριακής των Βαΐων και ευλόγησε τα βαγιά. Τα βαγιά μοιράστηκαν από τον πατέρα Γρηγόριο με την βοήθεια της Ελένης Κατελανού, της Ειρήνης Δημητράτου και του Ανδρέα Δημητράτου. Τα βαγιά δημιουργήθηκαν και διακοσμήθηκαν από τους μαθητές του Κυριακάτικου Σχολείου. Όλοι οι παρευρισκόμενοι ενορίτες έλαβαν σταυρούς από τις κυρίες του συλλόγου της Φιλοπτώχου.

Ευχαριστούμε τα παπαδοπαίδια μας Ζακ Γιαννακοπούλο, Γουίλιαμ Σπιλμαν, Αγγέλο και Πέτρο Τσιβελή και Ανδρέα Δημητράτο για την αφοσίωση τους στην λειτουργία. Ευχαριστούμε τον ψάλτη μας Ευάγγελο Καρτσακαλή για τους ομορφους υμνους.

Αυτή τη μέρα ξεκινάει το ταξίδι μας προς τη Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα και την Ανάσταση του Κυρίου Ιησού Χριστού μας.

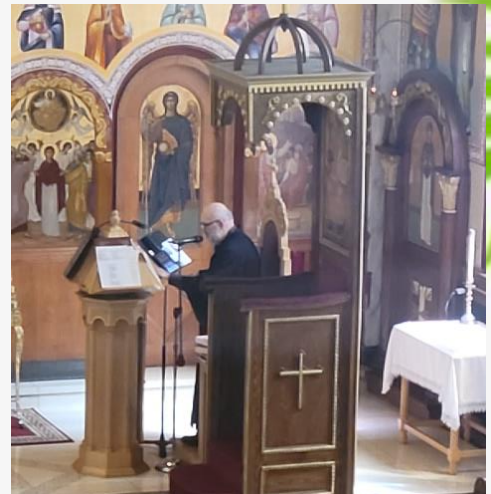
On Palm Sunday, Saint Demetrios Church was filled with many Parishioners. Father Gregory delivered the beautiful Palm Sunday service and the blessing of the palms. Palm crosses were distributed by Father Gregory with the assistance of Helen Catelanos, Irene Dimitratos and Andrew Dimitratos. The Palm Crosses were created and decorated by our Sunday School students. All parishioners in attendance received Palm Crosses made by the ladies of our Philoptochos Society.

Thank you to our Altar Servers, Zach Giannakopoulos, William Spillman, Angelo and Petros Tsivelis and Andrew Dimitratos for their dedication in this service. Thank you to our cantor, Evangelos Kartsakalis, for the beautiful hymns.

This day begins our journey to Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.









## Μεγάλη Τεταρτη - Holy Wednesday





## Μεγαλη Παρασκευη - *Holy Friday*

Our Good Friday Service and Procession were eloquently delivered by Father Gregory, our Choir, Altar Servers and our congregants in attendance on this most solemn and spiritual day of the year.





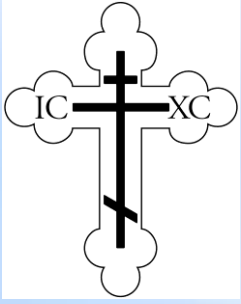








## Baptism



Το πρωϊ του Μεγαλου Σαββατου μετα το μυστηριο της Θειας Λειτουργιας, η Αννα Καραπετχαν βαφτιστηκε στην ελληνορθοδοξη πιστη απο τον πατερα Γρηγοριο μεσω μιας πολυ συναισθηματικης, πνευματικης, συμβολικης και παραδοσιακης τελετης, στην οποια παρευρεθηκαν στενοι συγγενεις και φιλοι. Νονοι της Αννας ηταν η Αφροδιτη και ο Γιωργος Κανελλιδης. Αυτο ηταν πραγματικα ενα ομορφο μυστηριο στο οποιο υπηρξαμε μαρτυρες και μαλιστα μια απο της πιο ιερης ημερες της εκκλησιαστικης χρονιας. Η Αννα ειναι η αρραβωνιαστικια του Δημητριου Μιχαηλ Κουδη. Συγχαρητηρια στην Αννα για την βαφτιση της και την πιστη δεσμευση της στον Κυριο Ιησου Χριστο. Στελνουμε την αγαπη μας και τις καλυτερες ευχες μας στην Αννα και τον Μιχαηλ καθως σχεδιαζουν την μελλοντικη τους ζωη μαζι.

On Holy Saturday morning after our Divine Liturgy service, Anna Karapetjan was baptized into our Greek Orthodox Faith by Father Gregory in a very emotional, spiritual, symbolic and traditional ceremony attended by close family and friends. Anna's sponsors were Aphrodite and George Kanellidis. This was a, truly, beautiful sacrament to witness on one of the most Holy days of our Ecclesiastical year. Anna is the fiancé of Dimitrios Michael Koudis. Congratulations to Anna upon her baptism and her faithful commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ. We send our love and best wishes to Anna and Mike as they plan their future life together.





Πασχα - 2022 - *Easter Sunday*





After our Easter Sunday Agape service celebrated by Father Gregory, our Saint Demetrios PTO sponsored their Annual Easter Egg Hunt on our Church lawn on this beautiful, bright, sunny day while our children and their parents frolicked with the Easter Bunny and enjoyed the joyfulness of Easter Day!









# *Easter Celebration*

*4/26/2022*





## *Mother's Day Celebration* *May 8, 2022*

Argiro Ahladianakis has dedicated her services to our Saint Demetrios Church Community for decades through involvement in our PTO, Philoptochos and Choir and she continues to be a faithful servant and active parishioner. Her devotion to our Church will be long remembered. Thank you, Argiro, and Congratulations!!



*Sincerest Gratitude and Appreciation*  
*May 22, 2022*



I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to Father Gregory, George Kanellidis, Afroula Kanellidis, our Parish Council and all our dearest parishioners for the recognition of my three year presidency. It was my deepest honor and privilege to have served as President of our Parish Council, particularly, through the unprecedented COVID 19 pandemic that forced us to create new, innovative ways to ensure that safety and security protocols were implemented precisely and alternative fundraising resources were designed to maintain our financial stability throughout the crisis. By working in unity and harmony, we survived! May God bless our beloved St. Demetrios Church with all the love, dedication and strength required from each and every one of us to preserve the legacy of our forefathers and our future for generations to come. Thank you, immensely, for the privilege to follow in my Grandfather's footsteps!

In His Service,  
Helen Coutros Horan  
Past President, 2019 - 2022



## *Appreciation Day May 22, 2022*

Both Teacher Appreciation Day and Altar Server Appreciation were observed, as well, on this special day.





## Sunday School

Our Sunday School Promotion and Graduation ceremony took place on Sunday, May 22, 2022 directly after our Divine Liturgy Services. The children who are the pride and joy of our Saint Demetrios Community were awarded their Certificates of Promotion and happily displayed their achievements to the audience of delighted parishioners and parents.





## *Sunday School Best Attendance Awards*

Brothers, Angelo and Petros Tsivelis, received “Best Attendance Awards” for their exemplary attendance record in Sunday School.

**Perfect  
Attendance!**



## *Sunday School High School Graduate*

Our Sunday School High School Graduate was Kalomira (Kali) Simatos who received her Sunday School Graduation Certificate, her Philoptochos gift and two family memorial Scholarship Awards, the Byron and Eleni Stoimenides and the George and Rosemarie Protonentis Family Scholarship Awards. Congratulations, Kali! We are extremely proud of Kali and are confident that she will find great success in her future endeavors!

# CONGRATULATIONS!







### Τελευταίο μάθημα του Ελληνικού Σχολείου

Την τελευταία μέρα του Ελληνικού Σχολείου, την Τετάρτη 8 Ιουνίου, οι μαθητές μαζί με τη δασκάλα τους, Δέσποινα Μάρκου, έψησαν κουλουράκια και τραγούδησαν τραγούδια που εξασκούσαν για την Τελετή Αποφοίτησής τους που είχε προγραμματιστεί για την Κυριακή, 12 Ιουνίου. Ήταν όλοι τόσο πολύ ενθουσιασμένοι καθώς απολάμβαναν αυτή την ξεχωριστή στιγμή μαζί.

On their last day of Greek School, Wednesday, June 8, students, along with their teacher, Despina Markos, baked koulourakia and sang songs they were practicing for their Promotion and Graduation Ceremony planned for Sunday, June 12. They were all so very enthused and excited as they enjoyed this special time together.



Αγαπητοί ενορίτες,

Την Κυριακή, 12 Ιουνίου γιορτάσαμε την τελετή αποφοίτησης του Ελληνικού σχολείου με ποιήματα και τραγούδια από τους μαθητές του Ελληνικού Σχολείου που μας έκαναν για μια ακόμα φορά υπερήφανους!

Αμέσως μετά παρέλαβαν τα απολυτήρια τους καθώς επίσης και από ένα βιβλίο δωρο που ήταν φιλική προσφορά από την οικογένεια της κυρία Τσουκά που την ευχαριστούμε πολύ για την στήριξη της! Ακολούθησε γεύμα το οποίο ήταν προσφορά από τους γονείς του Ελληνικού Σχολείου! Ευχαριστούμε πολύ όλους που βοήθησαν και στήριξαν το Ελληνικό σχολείο για μια ακόμα χρόνια! Αναεώνουμε το ραντεβού μας για τον Σεπτέμβρη.

Καλό καλοκαίρι σε όλους!!!

Δημήτριος Τσιβέλης  
Πρόεδρος Ελληνικού Σχολείου



Dear Parishioners,

On Sunday, June 12, we celebrated the graduation ceremony of the Greek school with poems and songs by the students of the Greek school that made us proud, once again!

Immediately after, they received their diplomas, as well as, a gift book that was a friendly offer from the family of Mrs. Tsouka for which we thank her and for the support! This was followed by a meal which was an offer from the parents of the Greek School! Many thanks to everyone who helped and supported the Greek School for another year! Hope will see you all in September.

Good summer to everyone!!!

Dimitrios Tsivelis  
President of the Greek School





## *G.O.Y.A.*

We are pleased to let you know that our parish sponsored the statewide G.O.Y.A. the Indoor Olympics and was a huge success. Our Goyans competed in the Outdoor Olympics during Memorial Day weekend, our Greek dancers danced at our parish festival. We are hosting a G.O.Y.A. week the first week of July. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please email Cindy at [cynthiagianna@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiagianna@gmail.com). In addition to welcoming new members, we will be bidding goodbye to Kali Simatos, our G.O.Y.A. President, during this week. We wish Kali all the best as she departs for college. We hope that everyone has a wonderful summer!

## *Outdoor Olympics*

Our G.O.Y.A. Team enjoyed a wonderful experience at Outdoor Olympics, the highlight of the year for the G.O.Y.A. It was held at Monmouth University over Memorial Day Weekend. They entered competitive games, reached higher levels of skills than anticipated, met new Greek Orthodox friends and strengthened their already strong bonds of friendship among their teammates.

Thank you to our G.O.Y.A. Advisors who are committed to the growth and development of our youth. They guide and encourage them with care and concern. Sincerest appreciation is extended to Cindy & Nick Giannakopoulos and Jennifer and Demos Simatos. We are very proud of our Goyans' achievements and accomplishments!





## *PTO Graduation Party*

Our PTO sponsored a Graduation Party for our children and community members after the ceremony with delicious cake, cupcakes and goodies as they enjoyed each other's company and the beautiful day outdoors.





## *SAINT DEMETRIOS LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY*

*"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his deed." ~ Proverbs 19:17*

The Philoptochos would like to give thanks to all the individuals who contributed in one way or another during the last couple of months, especially during the Easter season.

We would like to thank all who volunteered to make the Palm Sunday Crosses, as well as those who brought in the red Easter Eggs and stayed after church services to wrap them in tulle. It was a wonderful feeling of "community" to have everyone (even some husbands!) working together, some sharing their personal stories and experiences. Also, thank you to those of you who purchased Tsoureki and pastries from our bake sale. Your support goes a long way to help us provide assistance to those in need.

We must also give our thanks and appreciation to all of you who donated so generously toward the flowers we purchase to decorate our church and the Epitaphio. As usual, the Kouvouklion was decorated so beautifully by Sayrewood Florists.

Also, thanks to all who have donated non-perishable food items. We were able to provide two large bins of food to St. Peter's Episcopal Church's food pantry. The Philoptochos will continue to collect non-perishable food items, so please drop off your donations when you can so we can help feed the hungry.



Congratulations go out to Mrs. Argiro Ahladianakis, this year's Mother of the Year! As a member of the Philoptochos for many, many years, Argiro continues to volunteer her time and efforts whenever she can, and her advice and experience are appreciated. After the award ceremony, parishioners were invited to a celebratory luncheon put together by chairwomen Helen Catelanos, Evelyn Mariolis, and Marietta Khalil. Great job, ladies!



Have a great summer, everyone!

## *Greek Independence Day Parade*



Sunday, June 5, 2022 was an absolutely beautiful day for a parade, especially, our Greek Independence Day Parade! We had a good sized contingency of very proud and happy marchers representing our beloved Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church of Perth Amboy, NJ who shouted “Ζήτω η Ελλάδα!” as we marched along 5th Avenue in N.Y.C. and stopped for a photo in front of our Archdiocese Headquarters. This was a wonderful experience for our children and adults, alike, to display our love and devotion to our Greek Orthodox faith, culture and customs.



Father Gregory Rubis, Parish Council President, George Kane, our PTO President, Diana Regan, plus Parish Council Members, our Sunday School Director, teachers and students, our Greek School Director and students, G.O.Y.A. Representatives, our Church Secretary, our Altar Boys, Parishioners, our families and our precious children all gathered on this momentous day to pay tribute to our homeland of Greece! Ζήτω η Ελλάδα!







## *Greek Festival by the Bay - June 17, 18, 19*



Mayor Helmin Caba of Perth Amboy stopped by our Festival by the Bay on Saturday, June 18, to demonstrate his support and mingle with our volunteers who gleefully welcomed him with warm wishes and our Greek hospitality. Pictured above from left to right are Miguel Arocho, Helen Coutros Horan, Mayor Helmin Caba, Father Gregory, George Kane and Spero Kalambakas.



Several of our festival volunteers stopped for a moment to pose for a memorable photo of the event.



Zafe Filindras is “our secret ingredient” to our infamous loukoumades ranked as the best in the land by those who come from far and wide for these absolutely, delicious, sweet honey balls. Sincerest thanks to our talented baker! May she continue to create her contagious treats for many years to come! Thank you, Zafe!





a Heartfelt   
THANK YOU  
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!





## *G.O.Y.A. Dance Team's performance*

Our G.O.Y.A. Dance Team gave a spectacular performance at our Festival by the Bay with their special techniques and individual unique features that dazzled and entertained the entire audience. Gratitude is extended to our talented dance coaches, Despina and George Markos, who build confidence and teach our dance team with sincere care and kindness. This was an emotional last performance for Kali Simatos, our Senior Graduate, who will attend college in Philadelphia in September. She will be so deeply missed. Congratulations, Kali!





# Happy Father's Day

On Sunday, June 19th, the PTO had the honor of announcing this year's Father of the Year, George Tzitzis! After a lovely tribute was read to the parish, this year's Father of the Year 2022 plaque was presented to George. In between working the festival, George and his family celebrated during the Festival and many people stopped by to congratulate him. On behalf of Saint Demetrios and our PTO, congratulations George and thank you for your dedication and for all you have done and continue to do for Saint Demetrios!







### *Lianna Rasimowicz*

Lianna graduated from Monroe High School. She will be attending NOVA SouthEastern University and majoring in Marine Biology.

### *Melissa Rasimowicz*

Melissa graduated from NYU with a Masters degree in Nutrition and Clinical Dietetics.



### *Victoria Marie Rivera*

Victoria graduated from Rutgers University with a Masters Degree in Social Work. She attended a 3-year weekend intensive study program while working full time as a social worker. Next on her agenda is to take the National Association of Social Work Licensing Exam in the summer.

### *Jadyn Simatos*

Jadyn graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Fashion. Part of her senior collection was featured in a showcase for the famous jewelry designer, David Yerman. She has been on the Dean's List every semester. In her down time she trains her dog for therapy certification. While she was in G.O.Y.A. she placed runner-up in the Junior Regional Oratorical Festival, won many Sights & Sounds awards, including best actress, was on the executive board and taught the Hope and Joy dance group. In addition, Jadyn was honored by the Metropolis for senior Goyan. She hopes to continue her talents designing and make a big splash in the world of fashion.



### *Kali Simatos*

Kali graduated from Old Bridge High School in the top quarter of her class. She has been involved in the Red Cross Club organizing and volunteering in blood drives, and in the school senate as a voice for the students. Kali has been extremely involved in the G.O.Y.A. She has been on the executive board every year and kept the group thriving. She leads the dance group and teaches the Hope and Joy group as well. Kali was just honored by the Metropolis for senior Goyan. Freshman year she participated in the Oratorical Festival placing runner up in the regional finals. In addition, she has earned several accolades in Sights & Sounds. She was accepted in Thomas Jefferson University's accelerated 5 year undergraduate/masters program in trauma counseling and will be starting this fall.



## *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)

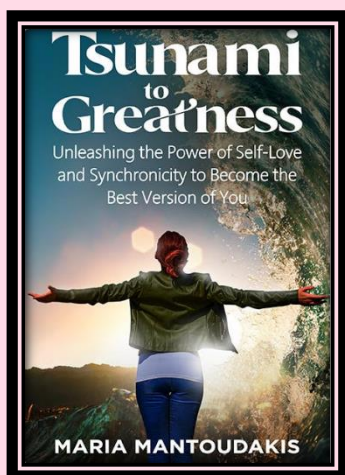
You can request a red glass candle to be lit with a blessing and a prayer. Each red candle is a \$10.00 donation. Candles will be lit during the Divine Liturgy. A donation can be made through the website, but a call or email would be necessary to make the request. Donations go directly to funding the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



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41-47 Wisteria Street  
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
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