

*Ecumenical Patriarchate*  
*Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey*

## **ASCENSION**

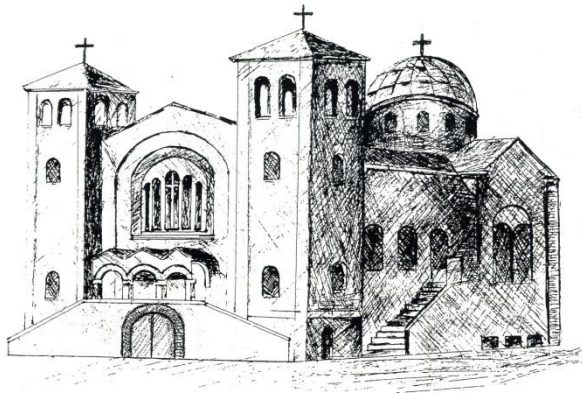
Greek Orthodox Church

FAIRVIEW - NEW JERSEY

## **Weekly Bulletin**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**



Οικουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον  
Ιερά Μητρόπολις Νέας Ιερσέης  
Ελληνική Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία  
**ΘΕΙΑΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ**  
ΦΕΡΒΙΟΥ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ  
**ΕΒΔΟΜΑΔΙΑΙΟ ΔΕΛΤΙΟ**  
**ΕΝΗΜΕΡΩΣΗΣ**

Rev. Christos L. Pappas, ProtPRESBYTER

## ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ & ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΕΩΝ

### Κυριακή, 8 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Γ' Λουκά - Προεόρτια Συλλήψεως Άννης**  
9:00 π .μ. – 12:00 μ.μ. Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία  
**Εκλογές Συμβουλίου μετά τη Θεία Λειτουργία μέχρι τις 2:00 μ.μ.**  
Ο καφές σερβίρεται από το ΠΤΟ  
**Πωλήσεις Γλυκών από το ΠΤΟ**  
**5:30 μ.μ. - 9:00 μ.μ. Φωτισμός του Χριστουγεννιάτικου Δένδρου**  
*(Μητρόπολη Νέας Ιερσέης)*

### Δευτέρα, 9 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Σύλληψις Αγίας Άννης - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θ. Λ.

### Τρίτη, 10 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Μηνάς, Εγμογένης, Εύγραφος, Θωμάς - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θ.Λ.  
6:00 μ.μ. Παράκληση  
7:00 μ.μ. Χριστουγεννιάτικο Πάρτυ της Φιλοπτώχου

### Τετάρτη, 11 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Δανιήλ ο Στυλίτης, Λουκάς ο Στυλίτης - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θ.Λ.  
4:30 μ.μ. - 6:15 μ.μ. *Ελληνικό Σχολείο*  
7:00 μ.μ. *Συνεδρίαση Συμβουλίου*

### Πέμπτη, 12 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Σπυρίδων ο Θαυματουργός - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία

### Παρασκευή, 13 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Ευστράτιος, Αυξέντιος, Ευγένιος - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θ.Λ.  
4:30 μ.μ. - 6:30 μ.μ. *Ελληνικό Σχολείο*

### Σάββατο, 14 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**Θύρσος, Καλλίνικος, Λεύκιος - 9:00 π .μ.** Όρθρος, Θ. Λειτουργία

### Κυριακή, 15 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019

**ΙΑ' Λουκά - Ελευθέριος & Ανθία Μητέρα**  
9:00 π .μ. – 12:00 μ.μ. Όρθρος, Θεία Λειτουργία  
Ο καφές σερβίρεται από την GOYA

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

### Sunday, December 8, 2019

**10th Sunday of Luke - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon** Orthros, D.L.  
**Parish Council Elections following the Divine Liturgy until 2:00 p.m.**  
Coffee is served by the PTO  
**PTO Bake Sale**  
**5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Annual Christmas Tree Lighting**  
*(Greek Orthodox Metropolis of NJ)*

### Monday, December 9, 2019

**Conception of Theotokos - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, Divine Liturgy

### Tuesday, December 10, 2019

**Menas, Hermogenes, Eugraphos, Thomas - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, D.L.  
6:00 Paraklisis  
7:00 p.m. Philoptochos Christmas Party

### Wednesday, December 11, 2019

**Daniel the Stylite, Luke Stylite - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, D.L.  
4:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. *Greek School*  
7:00 *Parish Council Meeting*

### Thursday, December 12, 2019

**Spyridon the Wonderworker - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, D. Liturgy

### Friday, December 13, 2019

**Auxentios, Efstratios, Eugenios - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, D. L.  
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. *Greek School*

### Saturday, December 14, 2019

**Thyrsos, Leucius & Callinicos - 9:00 a.m.** Orthros, D. Liturgy

### Sunday, December 15, 2019

**11th Sunday of Luke - St. Eleutherios**  
9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon Orthros, Divine Liturgy  
Coffee is served by the GOYA

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος πλ. δ'.  
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 75.11,1

Εὔξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν.  
Στίχ. Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός, ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ μέγα  
τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ.

**Πρὸς Ἐφεσίου 4:1-7 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα**

Ἀδελφοί, παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς ἐγώ, ὁ δέσμιος ἐν κυρίῳ, ἀξίως περιπατήσαι τῆς κλήσεως ἧς ἐκλήθητε, μετὰ πάσης ταπεινοφροσύνης καὶ πραότητος, μετὰ μακροθυμίας, ἀνεχόμενοι ἀλλήλων ἐν ἀγάπῃ, σπουδάζοντες τηρεῖν τὴν ἐνότητα τοῦ πνεύματος ἐν τῷ συνδέσμῳ τῆς εἰρήνης. Ἐν σῶμα καὶ ἐν πνεῦμα, καθὼς καὶ ἐκλήθητε ἐν μιᾷ ἐλπίδι τῆς κλήσεως ὑμῶν· εἰς κύριος, μία πίστις, ἐν βάπτισμα, εἰς θεὸς καὶ πατὴρ πάντων, ὁ ἐπὶ πάντων, καὶ διὰ πάντων, καὶ ἐν πᾶσιν ἡμῖν. Ἐνὶ δὲ ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἐδόθη ἡ χάρις κατὰ τὸ μέτρον τῆς δωρεᾶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 4.  
Psalm 75.11,1

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.  
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

**The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-7**

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

**Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 13:10-17 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα**

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, Ἦν δὲ διδάσκων ἐν μιᾷ τῶν συναγωγῶν ἐν τοῖς σάββασιν. καὶ ἰδοὺ γυνὴ ἦν πνεῦμα ἔχουσα ἀσθενείας ἔτη δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ, καὶ ἦν συγκύπτουσα καὶ μὴ δυναμένη ἀνακῦψαι εἰς τὸ παντελές. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτὴν ὁ Ἰησοῦς προσεφώνησε καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· γύναι, ἀπολέλυσα τῆς ἀσθενείας σου· καὶ ἐπέθηκεν αὐτῇ τὰς χεῖρας· καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνωρθώθη καὶ ἐδόξαζε τὸν Θεόν. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ ἀρχισυνάγωγος, ἀγανακτῶν ὅτι τῷ σαββάτῳ ἐθεράπευσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, ἔλεγε τῷ ὄχλῳ· ἔξ ἡμέραι εἰσὶν ἐν αἷς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι ἐν ταύταις οὐκ ἐρχόμενοι θεραπεύεσθε, καὶ μὴ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου. ἀπεκρίθη οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Κύριος καὶ εἶπεν· ὑποκριτά, ἕκαστος ὑμῶν τῷ σαββάτῳ οὐ λύει τὸν βουῖν αὐτοῦ ἢ τὸν ὄνον ἀπὸ τῆς φάτνης καὶ ἀπαγαγὼν ποτίζει; ταύτην δέ, θυγατέρα Ἀβραάμ οὕσαν, ἦν ἔδησεν ὁ σατανᾶς ἰδοὺ δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ ἔτη, οὐκ ἔδει λυθῆναι ἀπὸ τοῦ δεσμοῦ τούτου τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου; καὶ ταῦτα λέγοντος αὐτοῦ κατησχύνοντο πάντες οἱ ἀντικείμενοι αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος ἔχαιρεν ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐνδόξοις τοῖς γινομένοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

**The Gospel According to Luke 13:10-17**

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

### Σύλληψη της Αγίας Άννης

Για τη μητέρα της Θεοτόκου Άννα, δεν αναφέρουν τίποτα σχετικό τα Ευαγγέλια, ούτε τα υπόλοιπα βιβλία της Καινής Διαθήκης. Σύμφωνα όμως με την παράδοση της Εκκλησίας, ο Ιερέας Ματθάν, κάτοικος της Βηθλεέμ, απέκτησε τρεις θυγατέρες: τη Μαρία, τη Σοβή και την Άννα.

Η Μαρία, αφού παντρεύτηκε στη Βηθλεέμ, γέννησε εκεί την Ελισάβετ, τη μητέρα του Ιωάννη του Βαπτιστή.

Η Άννα παντρεύτηκε τον Ιωακείμ από τη Γαλιλαίο. Μετά από πολλά χρόνια ατεκνίας, απέκτησε κόρη, την Παρθένο Μαρία. Η παράδοση αναφέρει ότι οι γονείς της την αφέρωσαν στην υπηρεσία του Ναού της Ιερουσαλήμ, σε ηλικία τριών ετών. Αυτοί δε μετά από λίγα χρόνια πέθαναν.

Την Αγία Άννα τιμούσαν από τα αρχαία χρόνια. Το συμπεραίνουμε αυτό από διάφορους Πατέρες της Εκκλησίας, αλλά και από αρχαίους εκκλησιαστικούς ύμνους, που υπάρχουν προς τιμήν της μητέρας της Θεοτόκου. Επίσης, το έτος 550 μ.Χ., ο αυτοκράτωρ Ιουστινιανός, αφιέρωσε ναό στην Κωνσταντινούπολη προς τιμήν της Αγίας Άννας.

### The Conception of the Most Holy Theotokos by Saint Anna

The righteous Joachim and Anna were childless for fifty years of their married life. In their old age the Archangel Gabriel appeared to each one of them separately, telling them that God had heard their prayers and that they would give birth to a daughter, Mary. Then St. Anna conceived by her husband and after nine months bore a daughter blessed by God and by all generations of men: the Most-holy Virgin Mary, the Theotokos.

### Saints Joachim and Anna

St. Joachim was of the lineage of Judah and a descendant of King David. Anna was the daughter of Matthan the priest, from the lineage of Levi, as was Aaron the high priest. Matthan had three daughters: Mary, Sophia and Anna. Mary married, lived in Bethlehem, and gave birth to Salome; Sophia married, also lived in Bethlehem, and gave birth to Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Forerunner; Anna married Joachim in Nazareth, and in old age gave birth to Mary, the Most-holy Theotokos. Joachim and Anna had lived together in marriage for fifty years, and yet had remained barren. They lived devoutly and quietly, and of all their income they spent one third on themselves, distributed one third to the poor and gave the other third to the Temple, and they were well provided for.

Once when in their old age they came to Jerusalem to offer a sacrifice to God, the high priest Issachar reprimanded Joachim, saying: "You are not worthy that a gift be accepted from your hands, for you are childless." Others, who had children, pushed Joachim behind them as one unworthy. This greatly grieved these two aged souls and they returned home in great sorrow. Then the two of them fell down before God in prayer, that He work a miracle with them as He once had with Abraham and Sarah, and give them a child as a comfort in their old age. Then God sent His angel, who announced to them the birth of "a daughter most-blessed, by whom all nations on earth will be blessed and through whom the salvation of the world will come." Anna straightway conceived, and in nine month gave birth to the Holy Virgin Mary. St. Joachim lived for eighty years and Anna lived for seventy-nine, at which time they reposed in the Lord.

## Άγιος Σπυρίδων

Ο κυπριακής καταγωγής Άγιος Σπυρίδων, είναι σημαντική προσωπικότητα της Χριστιανοσύνης, ιδιαίτερα συνδεδεμένος με την πόλη και το νησί της Κέρκυρας, της οποίας είναι προστάτης Άγιος. Είναι, επίσης, πολιούχος Άγιος του Πειραιά. Η μνήμη του εορτάζεται στις 12 Δεκεμβρίου από την Ορθόδοξη Εκκλησία και στις 14 Δεκεμβρίου από την Καθολική.

Σύμφωνα με την εκκλησιαστική παράδοση, ο Άγιος Σπυρίδων γεννήθηκε περί το 270 στην Άσκια, τη σημερινή Άσκια Αμμοχώστου, που βρίσκεται στα Κατεχόμενα της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας. Καταγόταν από ταπεινή οικογένεια και ήταν μάλλον εύπορος για τα μέτρα της εποχής, αφού είχε στην κατοχή του αγροτική γη και κοπάδια προβάτων. Με την προτροπή των γονέων του παντρεύτηκε μια ενάρετη συγχωριανή του, με την οποία απέκτησε μία κόρη, ονόματι Ειρήνη. Οι γραμματικές του γνώσεις ήταν περιορισμένες, αλλά χάρη στην αρετή του και τον άρτιο χριστιανικό του βίο εξελέγη επίσκοπος Τριμυθούντος (σημερινή Τρεμετουσιά Λάρνακας).

Ο Σπυρίδων ως επίσκοπος Τριμυθούντος μετείχε στην Α' Οικουμενική Σύνοδο της Νικαίας (325), η οποία διαμόρφωσε το χριστιανικό δόγμα, και διακρίθηκε ως δεινός επικριτής του Αρείου. Μάλιστα θαυματούργησε, προσπαθώντας να αντικρούσει τον αιρεσιάρχη Άρειο, ο οποίος διέδιδε ότι ο Χριστός δεν είναι Υιός του Θεού, αλλά δημιούργημα του Θεού, αμφισβητώντας το θεμελιώδες για τον Χριστιανισμό δόγμα της Αγίας Τριάδας. Για να αποδείξει το αβάσιμο των δοξασιών του Αρείου, έβαλε το αριστερό χέρι στην τσέπη του κι έβγαλε ένα κεραμίδι. Δείχνοντάς το στους παρισταμένους στη Σύνοδο, με το δεξί του χέρι έκανε το σημείο του σταυρού και είπε:

«Εις το όνομα του Πατρός». Οι πατέρες που παρακολουθούν τη σκηνή, συγκλονίζονται κυριολεκτικά. Γιατί με τις λέξεις του Σπυρίδωνα, η φωτιά με την οποία ψήθηκε το κεραμίδι ανέβηκε προς τα πάνω.

- «Και του Υιού», πρόσθεσε. Τότε το νερό με το οποίο ζυμώθηκε το κεραμίδι, έτρεξε προς τα κάτω.

- «Και του Αγίου Πνεύματος» συμπλήρωσε και το χόμα έμεινε στο χέρι του.

Και αμέσως μετά απευθυνόμενος στους παρισταμένους συνοδικούς είπε:

- Αδελφοί και πατέρες μου, όπως το κεραμίδι αποτελεί ένα πράγμα μιας ουσίας και μιας φύσεως, αλλά είναι τρισύνθετο - φωτιά, νερό, χόμα - έτσι κι ο Άγιος Θεός. Αν και δεν πρέπει να παρομοιάσουμε την Άκτιστο και Υπερούσια αυτή Φύση με κτιστό και φθαρτό δημιούργημα, εν τούτοις για να κάνουμε τα ακατάληπτα καταληπτά, - ας μας συγχωρήσει το άπειρο έλεός Του - λέμε και τονίζουμε: Ο Θεός είναι ένας κατά την ουσία και τη φύση. Αλλά κατά τα πρόσωπα ή τις υποστάσεις είναι Τριαδικός: Πατήρ, Υιός και Άγιο Πνεύμα. Είναι το λεγόμενο «Θαύμα της Κεράμου», το οποίο αποδίδεται στον Άγιο Σπυρίδωνα.

Ο Σπυρίδων εκοιμήθη εν ειρήνη το 348 και λόγω του ενάρετου βίου και των θαυμάτων που ετέλεσε κατατάχθηκε μεταξύ των Αγίων. Το λείψανό του κατά τον έβδομο αιώνα μεταφέρθηκε στην Κωνσταντινούπολη για να προφυλαχθεί από τις επιδρομές των αλλοθρήσκων Αράβων στην Κύπρο. Μετά την άλωση της Πόλης το 1453 μεταφέρθηκε για ασφάλεια στην ενετοκρατούμενη Κέρκυρα, η οποία από τότε συνδέεται στενά με τον Άγιο και οι κάτοικοί της επικαλούνται το όνομά του σε κάθε δύσκολη περίπτωση.

Σε ανάμνηση των θαυμάτων του Αγίου σε καθοριστικές στιγμές της ιστορίας της Κέρκυρας, έχουν καθιερωθεί τέσσερις λιτανείες του σκηνώματός του κάθε έτος, οι οποίες διεξάγονται με ιδιαίτερη λαμπρότητα και την πάροδο του χρόνου έχουν αποκτήσει και τουριστικό χαρακτήρα:

Την πρώτη Κυριακή του Νοεμβρίου («Πρωτοκύριακο»), για την απαλλαγή του νησιού από πανώλη. Καθιερώθηκε το 1673.

Την Κυριακή των Βαΐων, για την απαλλαγή του νησιού από πανώλη. Καθιερώθηκε το 1630.

Το Μεγάλο Σάββατο για την απαλλαγή του νησιού από λιμό, λόγω σιτοδείας. Είναι πιο παλαιά λιτανεία και χρονολογείται από το 1553.

Την 11η Αυγούστου για τη διάσωση του νησιού από τους Τούρκους το 1716.

Ο Άγιος Σπυρίδων είναι προστάτης των αγγειοπλαστών και της διάσημης ρωσικής οικογένειας των Τολστόι.

### **Saint Spyridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus Commemorated on [December 12](#)**

#### Troparion & Kontakion

Saint Spyridon of Tremithus was born towards the end of the third century on the island of Cyprus. He was a shepherd, and had a wife and children. He used all his substance for the needs of his neighbors and the homeless, for which the Lord rewarded him with a gift of wonderworking. He healed those who were incurably sick, and cast out demons.

After the death of his wife, during the reign of Constantine the Great (306-337), he was made Bishop of Tremithus, Cyprus. As a bishop, the saint did not alter his manner of life, but combined pastoral service with deeds of charity.

According to the witness of Church historians, Saint Spyridon participated in the sessions of the First Ecumenical Council in the year 325. At the Council, the saint entered into a dispute with a Greek philosopher who was defending the Arian heresy. The power of Saint Spyridon's plain, direct speech showed everyone the importance of human wisdom before God's Wisdom: "Listen, philosopher, to what I tell you. There is one God Who created man from dust. He has ordered all things, both visible and invisible, by His Word and His Spirit. The Word is the Son of God, Who came down upon the earth on account of our sins. He was born of a Virgin, He lived among men, and suffered and died for our salvation, and then He arose from the dead, and He has resurrected the human race with Him. We believe that He is one in essence (consubstantial) with the Father, and equal to Him in

authority and honor. We believe this without any sly rationalizations, for it is impossible to grasp this mystery by human reason."

As a result of their discussion, the opponent of Christianity became the saint's zealous defender and later received holy Baptism. After his conversation with Saint Spyridon, the philosopher turned to his companions and said, "Listen! Until now my rivals have presented their arguments, and I was able to refute their proofs with other proofs. But instead of proofs from reason, the words of this Elder are filled with some sort of special power, and no one can refute them, since it is impossible for man to oppose God. If any of you thinks as I do now, let him believe in Christ and join me in following this man, for God Himself speaks through his lips."

At this Council, Saint Spyridon displayed the unity of the Holy Trinity in a remarkable way. He took a brick in his hand and squeezed it. At that instant fire shot up from it, water dripped on the ground, and only dust remained in the hands of the wonderworker.

"There was only one brick," Saint Spyridon said, "but it was composed of three elements. In the Holy Trinity there are three Persons, but only one God."

The saint cared for his flock with great love. Through his prayers, drought was replaced by abundant rains, and incessant rains were replaced by fair weather. Through his prayers the sick were healed and demons cast out.

A woman once came up to him with a dead child in her arms, imploring the intercession of the saint. He prayed, and the infant was restored to life. The mother, overcome with joy, collapsed lifeless. Through the prayers of the saint of God, the mother was restored to life.

Another time, hastening to save his friend, who had been falsely accused and sentenced to death, the saint was hindered on his way by the unanticipated flooding of a stream. The saint commanded the water: "Halt! For the Lord of all the world commands that you

permit me to cross so that a man may be saved.” The will of the saint was fulfilled, and he crossed over happily to the other shore. The judge, apprised of the miracle that had occurred, received Saint Spyridon with esteem and set his friend free.

Similar instances are known from the life of the saint. Once, he went into an empty church, and ordered that the lampadas and candles be lit, and then he began the service. When he said, “Peace be unto all,” both he and the deacon heard from above the resounding of “a great multitude of voices saying, “And with thy spirit.” This choir was majestic and more sweetly melodious than any human choir. To each petition of the litanies, the invisible choir sang, “Lord, have mercy.” Attracted by the church singing, the people who lived nearby hastened towards it. As they got closer and closer to the church, the wondrous singing filled their ears and gladdened their hearts. But when they entered into the church, they saw no one but the bishop and several church servers, and they no longer heard the singing which had greatly astonished them.” Saint Simeon Metaphrastes (November 9), the author of his Life, likened Saint Spyridon to the Patriarch Abraham in his hospitality. Sozomen, in his CHURCH HISTORY, offers an amazing example from the life of the saint of how he received strangers. One time, at the start of the Forty-day Fast, a stranger knocked at his door. Seeing that the traveller was very exhausted, Saint Spyridon said to his daughter, “Wash the feet of this man, so he may recline to dine.” But since it was Lent there were none of the necessary provisions, for the saint “partook His daughter replied that there was no bread or flour in the house. Then Saint Spyridon, apologizing to his guest, ordered his daughter to cook a salted ham from their larder.

After seating the stranger at table, he began to eat, urging that man to do the same. When the latter refused, calling himself a Christian, the saint rejoined, “It is not proper to refuse this, for the Word of God proclaims, “Unto the pure all things are pure” (Titus 1:15).

Another historical detail reported by Sozomen, was characteristic of the saint. It was his custom to distribute one part of the gathered harvest to the destitute, and another portion to those having need while in debt. He did not take a portion for himself, but simply showed them the entrance to his storeroom, where each could take as much as was needed, and could later pay it back in the same way, without records or accountings.

There is also the tale by Socrates Scholasticus about how robbers planned to steal the sheep of Saint Spyridon. They broke into the sheepfold at night, but here they found themselves all tied up by some invisible power. When morning came the saint went to his flock, and seeing the tied-up robbers, he prayed and released them. For a long while he advised them to leave their path of iniquity and earn their livelihood by respectable work. Then he made them a gift of a sheep and sending them off, the saint said kindly, “Take this for your trouble, so that you did not spend a sleepless night in vain.”

All the Lives of the saint speak of the amazing simplicity and the gift of wonderworking granted him by God. Through a word of the saint the dead were awakened, the elements of nature tamed, the idols smashed. At one point, a Council had been convened at Alexandria by the Patriarch to discuss what to do about the idols and pagan temples there. Through the prayers of the Fathers of the Council all the idols fell down except one, which was very much revered. It was revealed to the Patriarch in a vision that this idol had to be shattered by Saint Spyridon of Tremithus. Invited by the Council, the saint set sail on a ship, and at the moment the ship touched shore and the saint stepped out on land, the idol in Alexandria with all its offerings turned to dust, which then was reported to the Patriarch and all the bishops.

Saint Spyridon lived his earthly life in righteousness and sanctity, and prayerfully surrendered his soul to the Lord. His relics repose on the island of Corfu (Kerkyra), in a church named after him (His right hand, however, is located in Rome).

His memory is also celebrated on Cheesefare Saturday.



PTO of Ascension's 16th Annual

# TAVERNA Night



With Yannis Papastefanou & Orchestra

Save the Date:

February 1, 2020

\$55 advanced tickets • \$75 at the door • Kids \$30 advanced tickets (12-18) • Greek School Kids **FREE**

Contact Any PTO Member or text Christina Papas, 201-658-2766 or email [ascensionfairviewpto@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionfairviewpto@gmail.com)

(More Info to follow)

## Ascension P.T.O Christmas Bake Sale



Friday, December 6th  
(immediately after Greek School)

**Sunday, December 8th**  
**After the Divine Liturgy**

**\$25 per platter**

Thank you for Supporting our Greek Afternoon School!

Καλές Γιορτές!!!



## SAVE THE DATE 2019

PTO Ascension Bake Sale - *December 6 & 8, 2019*

Philoptochos Christmas Party - *December 10, 2019*

Catechism School Annual Christmas Retreat  
*December 15, 2019*

Greek School Christmas Program - *December 20, 2019*

Catechism School Annual Nativity Program in Church  
*December 22, 2019*

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## SAVE THE DATE 2020

Philoptochos Vasilopita - *January 11, 2020*

Godparents Sunday - *January 26, 2020*

*P.T.O. Taverna Night, February 1, 2020*

Philoptochos Apokriatiko Glendi - *February 29, 2020*

## ASCENSION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH PHILOPTOCHOS IS SPONSORING A FOOD DRIVE



As part of the initiatives and Philanthropic endeavors of Philoptochos

**«FEED THE HUNGRY PROGRAM»**

We are inviting all Parishioners, Church Organizations, & friends to participate.

Donations of non-perishable food items, toiletries, baby food,  
shampoos, soaps, etc. are welcome!

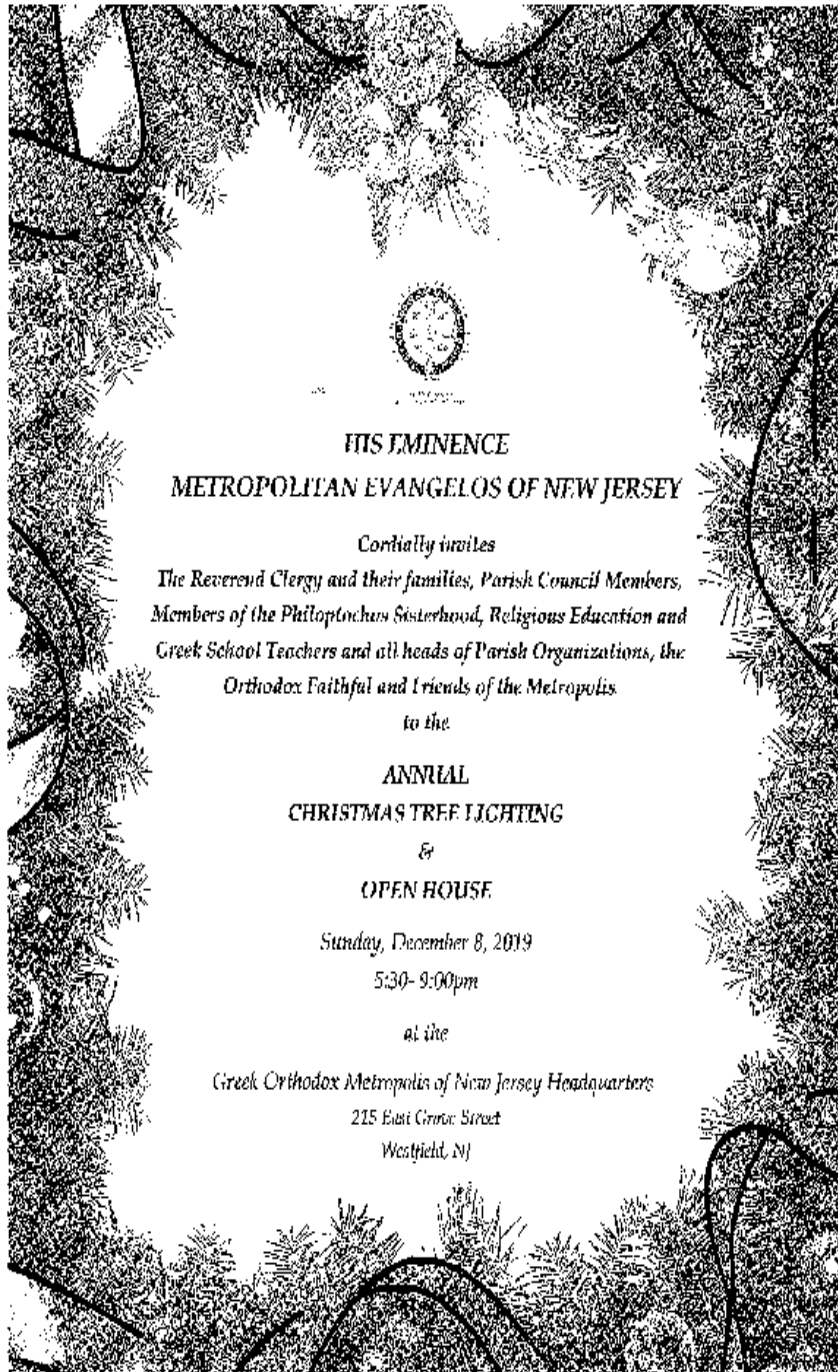
Our Philoptochos will deliver your donation to Food Banks in our area.



**COLLECTION WILL BE FROM NOVEMBER & DECEMBER BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

**DONATION BOXES CAN BE FOUND IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER.**

**JOIN US AND HELP FILL OUR BOXES.**



## SUNDAY IS FUN DAY CATECHISM CHRISTMAS RETREAT NOTICE

Please join us Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 at 11am in Church. Pick up is at 3pm in the Community Center.

All children are welcome, Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
GOYANS are encouraged to attend, participate and help. I will be giving community volunteer hours.

Activities: Attend Divine Liturgy, receive Holy Communion, and participate in a short lesson about the Nativity and how to prepare for Christmas. We will have lots of fun with DIY crafts, other activities and games. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Please fill out the Registration Form as soon as you receive it and send it to us.



Any questions can be addressed to Mrs. Bonitsis @646-206-9393  
Thank you, see you then! Addie Toumazou, Catechism Director



*Ascension Greek Orthodox Church  
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY  
101 Anderson Ave., Fairview, N.J. 07022*

*Invites you to our Annual CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Church Hall  
Bring your Friends & Join us to celebrate this magical & beautiful Season  
of Christmas Spirit with Christmas Carols & Special Music  
by professional Accordionist, John Collins*

*Food - Refreshments - Desserts  
Donation: \$20.00*

*Please call:  
Demetra Delaportas: 551 265 7321 - Pauline Tasigiannis: 201 281 2740  
Church Office: 201 945 6448*

*Proceeds go to Philanthropic endeavors of the Ascension Philoptochos Society*



*Χριστουγεννιάτικο Πάρτυ της Φιλοπτώχου  
την Τρίτη 10 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019 στις 7:00 μ.μ.  
στην αίθουσα της Εκκλησίας*

*Είστε ευπρόσδεκτοι με τους φίλους σας  
να σινεορτάσουμε το μεγάλο γεγονός της Γεννήσεως του Χριστού  
Χριστουγεννιάτικα τραγούδια και μουσική  
με τον Επαγγελματία Ακορντεονίστα, John Collins*

*Βείζνο - αναψυκτικά - γλυκά  
Είσοδος: \$20.00*

*Παρακαλώ τηλεφωνήστε:  
Δήμητρα Πελακόπουλα: 551 265 7321 - Πολίτη Τσαγιάννη: 201 281 2740  
Γραφείο Εκκλησίας: 201 945 6448*

*Τα έσοδα θα διατεθούν για τους Φιλανθρωπικούς σκοπούς  
της Φιλοπτώχου Αδελφότητος της Θείας Αναλήψεως*



## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

JOIN US FOR DINNER AND DANCING AS WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR!!

ASCENSION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH HALL

101 ANDERSON AVENUE, FAIRVIEW, NEW JERSEY

9:00 P.M.

APPETIZERS &

FULL BUFFET DINNER

WITH WINE, BEER & SOFT DRINKS INCLUDED

BYO— ALL OTHER SPIRITS

MIDNIGHT CHAMPAGNE TOAST

& LIVE COVERAGE OF THE BALL DROPPING

VASILOPITA WITH LUCKY COIN FOR EACH TABLE

MUSIC BY «DJ TOMMY KARAS»

DONATION

ADULTS - \$75.00

STUDENTS 13- 18 YRS- \$40

CHILDREN UNDER 12 - FREE

PREPAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, PLEASE INQUIRE

CHURCH OFFICE - (201)945-6448

Happy New Year!

**Ascension Greek Orthodox Church**

**101 Anderson Ave. Fairview New Jersey**

**201-945-6448, Fax 201-945-6463**

**email: [info@ascensionfairview.org](mailto:info@ascensionfairview.org) website**

Visit our website: [www.AscensionFairview.org](http://www.AscensionFairview.org)

Like us on Facebook:

**"Ascension Greek Orthodox Church"**

Want to be added to our email list? Contact us:

[info@ascensionfairview.org](mailto:info@ascensionfairview.org)

***THE WEEKLY BULLETIN  
YEAR 2019 ISSUE 12,2***

**SUNDAY, December 8, 2019  
10th Sunday of Luke**

**ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ, 8 Δεκεμβρίου, 2019  
Γ' Λουκά**

**MEMORIAL SERVICES - ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΑ**

3 μήνες: Μαριάνα Καλογερά

3 months: Mariana Kalogeras

3 χρόνια: Κωνσταντίνο Παπανικολάου

3 years: Constantinos Papanikolaou

*Ο καφές προσφέρεται από τις οικογένειες*

*Καλογερά, Giraldo & Παπανικολάου*

*που τελούν τα μνημόσυνα εις μνήμη των κεκοιμημένων*

*The coffee is offered*

*by the Kalogeras, Giraldo & Papanikolaou Families  
that have the Memorial Services*

\*\*\*\*\*

**SACRAMENTS — ΜΥΣΤΗΡΙΑ**

**4:00 p.m. Wedding**

*Evan Yiassumis Hajiyerou*

*&*

*Jessica Nicole Murden*