

The Cathedral Chronicle

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June 10th, 2021



Funds Raised At St. John's 50th Anniversary Gala Have Been Donated To A Rehabilitation Facility To Assistance Those Suffering From Opioid And Drug Addiction

Grounded in the belief of the dignity of all human life, we at St. John's have donated \$40,000.00, which was raised at our 50th Anniversary Gala, to the Retreat & Recovery Center at Ramapo Valley located in Mahwah, N.J.

In conjunction with our Gala that recognized our 50 years of service to the Community, we used the occasion to raise the funds to help our community, our relatives, our friends and our neighbors who need assistance in combating the insidious affliction of opioid and drug addiction.

St. John's has a support group that meets monthly offering emotional support, education, and supplemental services known as C.A.R.E. for those in need. However, since we cannot provide the comprehensive medical support services that are usually associated with treating victims of opioid and drug addiction we have donated the \$40,000.00 raised at the Gala to the

Outpatient Addiction Treatment Center, operated by Hackensack Meridian Health and known as The Retreat & Recovery Center at Ramapo Valley. This facility is located on a 40-acre campus which formerly housed a religious retreat center on Ramapo Valley Road. The entrance foyer in the new outpatient section of the facility will recognize our Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Theologian for her generous contribution to this worthy cause. The outpatient facility opened in February 2021 and a 90-bed inpatient facility is scheduled for 2022.

This donation is the fulfillment of our commitment to help those who need help. To paraphrase the Scriptures, blessed are those who help the neediest of their brothers and sisters. *Matthew 25:40.*

We want to thank all who attended the Gala and who worked to make this donation a reality.

Arthur N. Chagaris, Esq.

Chris E. Tsamutalis, CPA.

Co-Chairs, 50th Anniversary Gala



President's Message:

Dear Families of St. John the Theologian,

On behalf of the Parish Council, I pray that this finds you all safe and well.

We, as a community, are especially thankful to Father Angelo, the church staff, and the Parish Council for their active support and leadership during this past Lenten Season. I would also like to thank you, the Parishioners, for your patience and understanding when attending services and for being respectful of our leaders and volunteers. You all made the services manageable under the guidelines and restrictions.

Once again I cannot stress the importance of community at this time. We are blessed that all of our ministries and organizations continue to invigorate their membership with unique programs and virtual meetings to keep the enthusiasm of our beautiful Cathedral of St. John the Theologian community vibrant and active.

Our Greek School just had their commencement. The Greek School was able to have both in class and at home instructions during the past year with the help of the Teachers, Parents, Students, and the PTO. It was great to see all of the students who desire to learn our Greek Language and study our Greek Heritage. Congratulations to the Graduates.

We are preparing for a full reopening at the start of our liturgical year in September. We will host our 50th Anniversary "Taste of Greece" Festival on September 17,18 and 19th. We are expecting

to have all types of food and events. Save the Date and please make every effort to volunteer and attend this bit of Greece in Tenafly.

Fr. Angelo and Our Parish Council have made the youth and the young families our focus to help us continue to build our Community.

We have created the following a winning aspiration:

"To be the community that is recognized as having the best youth programs and ministries that will enable our Cathedral of St. John the Theologian to increase our membership and bring more people to Jesus Christ."

In order to succeed, we need Volunteers, Programs, Fundraising, and our Facilities. We have created action groups to create goals and objectives to drive this aspiration and ensure that our Cathedral of St. John the Theologian will be around for many generations as an example of our Orthodox Faith, Greek Language, and Greek Culture.

We are all excited to get back to normal and wish to see all of you in church as soon as it is safe and responsible to do so. We appreciate everyone's patience and respect for Father Angelo, the church staff, the Parish Council members, and all the volunteers who help to keep all of our members safe.

Have a great and safe Summer.

Yours in Christ,

Stephen E. Ferranti
Parish Council President



St. Philothea Philoptochos Society News

Spring 2021

Pascha

Christos Anesti!

Alithos Anesti!

May the light of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, protect us, inspire us, and guide us as we look forward to all Pandemic restrictions being lifted so that we may resume our normal lives.

Although attendance for Holy Week had to be restricted it was indeed special as many of us, once again, were able to worship together within our Cathedral.



ACTIVITIES/FUNDRAISERS

Bake Sales

Our Philoptochos Sisters continue to do the best they can even with restrictions. Although we had to bake in our homes, our Easter koulourakia sales were very successful and we thank everyone who supported us.

Feeding the Hungry

In March, we provided a full dinner for over 150 homeless at Family Promise in Hackensack, NJ.

We will be sponsoring another dinner in June with over 150 meals!!!

Our Feeding the Needy Committee, shopped twice and delivered over \$1000 dollars of food to Center for Food Action in Englewood, NJ.



Outdoor Lenten Luncheon at AXIA Taverna

Our first in person gathering for a Lenten luncheon on Tuesday, April 20th. Everyone was very happy!



*Fellowship &
Philanthropy*



Stewardship 2021- Elections

As elections were approaching, our chapter stewardship was quite low and the numbers were below what would have qualified us to maintain our 21 board seats. But with persistence and dedication, our Membership Committee and board members worked the phones and got our stewardship numbers up to 210 paid stewards. Congratulations!!! We now how have 21 newly elected officers for 2021-2023



My Dear Sisters, and Friends of Philoptochos,

As we welcome our new board, and my term as your President comes to an end, I would like to express my deepest appreciation for being given the distinct honor of serving our beloved chapter and our Cathedral these past 6 years.

It has been a truly rewarding and heartwarming experience for me as I look back at the amazing work we have done together.

I am grateful to all who have worked beside me, and have devoted themselves to fulfilling our sacred mission. Our Faith, our Fellowship, our belief in Philanthropy and a lot of hard work has brought our chapter to new levels and amazing accomplishments.

I will cherish all the memories especially the ones that have made a difference in someone's life. We must never forget that the greatest gift you can give yourself is to give to others.

So, as I pass the baton to our newly elected President, Maria Kamilaris, along with my very best wishes, love and support, my hope is that she too will experience that special fulfillment of giving to others.

Congratulations to Maria and our new board!!! Wishing you all the best of health, joy and strength with all of God's blessings!

Our mission continues...

With Agape, I remain your sister in Christ,
Stella Baker



ST. PHILOTHEA PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD 2021-2023



EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Maria Kamilaris
1st Vice President: Audrey Soussou
2nd Vice President: Anna Lilikas
Treasurer: Aspasia Panaretos
Assistant Treasurer: Agatha Xenopoulos
Recording Secretary: Annemarie Chicles
Corresponding Secretary: Francesca Puleo
Advisor to the Board: Stella Baker*

BOARD MEMBERS

Athena Apostle	Poly Derdemezis
Georgia Christofides	Gena Dongaris
Anastasia Economos	Elizabeth Goldman
Katina Halkias*	Vivian Karsos
Joanne Kontos	Effie Michalos
Rena Pirsos	Effie Popovski
Sotiroula Savva	

Chapter Honorary Board Members:

Barbara Kostakis *	Harriet Nikolaidis*
Marina Philliou*	Koula Poneris*

National Philoptochos Board Member

NJ Metropolis Philoptochos Honorary Board Member

Stella Baker

National Philoptochos Honorary Board Member

NJ Metropolis Philoptochos Past President

Honorary board member

Aspasia Melis

NJ Metropolis Philoptochos Executive Board

Barbara Kostakis, Treasurer

Harriet Nikolaidis, Assistant Treasurer

Spiritual Advisor: Cathedral Proistamenos Rev. Fr. Angelo Artemas

"Philanthropy, Fellowship and Faith in Action"

Greetings from the PTO / Mothers' Club

Χριστός Ανέστη! We hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy. A very **BIG** congratulations to our 2021 Oratorical Festival winners and to Eleni Coyle for her amazing dedication and efforts to this wonderful festival. We were so impressed with these students talent and knowledge of their faith.

Senior Division Speeches/Oratory:
Emma Papanikolaou: 1st Place
Athanasia Chandras: 2nd Place

Junior Division Speeches/Oratory:
Stratos Chandras: 1st Place
Maria Galiotos: 2nd Place
Tony Galiotos: 3rd Place

Junior Division Essay:
Alex Orrechio: 1st Place

Elementary Division Speech Award:
Anastasia Gkountoulas

In March the PTO distributed Greek Flag cookies to all our Greek School students and teachers in honor of Greek Independence Day and Angel cookies to our Sunday School students and teachers in honor of Evangelismos. We were so happy to see the kids enjoy this token gift and hope to be able to make it a tradition!



The PTO also assisted with the Greek Flag raising ceremony in Englewood Cliffs. What a fantastic turnout to celebrate 200 years of Greek Independence!



Our PTO has continued to organize fun and exciting events and fundraisers. Our tsoureki sales were a big success and we thank you dearly for your support. Our favorite event was by far our Easter Retreat where we had a special visit from the Easter Bunny himself and we were able to enjoy an Easter egg hunt and bubble show!





Whether your children were in person or virtual this year we are so happy that our Greek and Sunday School programs were able to continue to enrich the lives of our children. Thank you to all the dedicated families that participated. With your commitment to these programs, you undoubtedly deepened your children's knowledge of Hellenism and our Greek Orthodox faith.

This year would not be possible without the hard work of our Greek and Sunday School administration and teachers. The PTO Mothers' Club extends a very special thank you to all of them for their exemplary dedication to our children during this difficult year. It warms our hearts that you have shared so much of your time to help shape the minds, hearts and futures of our Greek Orthodox youth.

We look forward to next Fall and hope that we will all be able to see one another in person. We plan to begin Greek Dance enrollment in September, and also hope to be able to continue organizing some more fun events for our community to enjoy.

Last, but not least thank you to all our 2020-2021 board members who dedicate their time and enthusiasm to fundraising and planning events designed to enrich our children's religious, cultural and educational experiences.

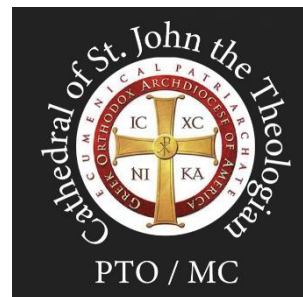
We are always in search of new members. The more helping hands we have, the more we can do for our community. Should you wish to join the PTO Mothers' Club please feel free to reach out to us at stjohnspto.353@gmail.com. Also

follow us on Facebook (PTO St. John's Cathedral) for updates and event information.

Wishing you all a wonderful and safe summer!

PTO Mothers' Club

Ioanna Koutroubas & Mariella Kapsaskis
CO-PRESIDENTS OF PTO / MOTHERS' CLUB



AHEPA:

Dear Stewards,

On behalf of my fellow brothers of AHEPA, Bergen Knights Chapter 285, I pray this version of the Chronicle finds you and your family well and in good health.

This year we welcomed many new brothers into the AHEPA family; Yianni Chandras, Jerry Makris, Nicholas Hilaris, Andreas Lambiris, Alexander Mikelis were part of the first group. Since then we have welcomed Nicholas Papas, Peter Bayiokos, Aristoteli Zigouras, Harry Pilitsis and Congressman Josh Gottheimer. The initiations were all performed over Zoom.

Although it has been difficult hosting events this past year, our chapter continues to contribute to several organizations. We donated monies to our St John's St Philothea, to assist them with the food pantry in Hackensack, to St Basil's Academy, the American Cancer Society, the AHEPA Cancer Research Fund, and to our beloved Cathedral.

We are about to host the AHEPA District 5 convention June 19th. We will be hosting a Banquet on Saturday October 16th in the Fellowship Hall to commemorate our Chapter's 90th Anniversary. In order to make the Banquet a success, we will be publishing a Journal and are asking for your assistance by purchasing an ad. Proceeds from the journal will go to the charities previously mentioned.

We would also like to announce our Scholarship winner this year, Athanasia Chandras, a young lady graduating one year early from high school and attending Boston College next year.

God Bless. Respectfully,

Jimmy Bayiokos,

President

Bergen Knights AHEPA Chapter #285

Scholarships available for our Stewards(those past the deadline you can do next year)

-St. John the Theologian Scholarship:

Available to any Seniors in High School who are children of a Steward, Deadline August 15th. Applications from church office.

-GOYA, District Scholarships:

Available to any Senior in High School who is a GOYA member. Info and Deadlines are past. See your GOYA advisor for next year.

-AHEPA

-Bergen Knights Chapter scholarship

Available to any Senior in High School who is a child of a Bergen Knights chapter AHEPA member.

Deadline: May 1st

-AHEPA District #5 Scholarships

Available to Seniors who are children of AHEPA Members. Deadline March 31st

<https://ahepadistrict5.org/scholarship.htm>

-AHEPA National Scholarships

Available to children or grandchildren of AHEPA members. Deadline March 31st

<https://ahepa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-AEF-Application.pdf>

-Scouts:

-Tony Triant Memorial Scholarship:

Available to any Senior who is a Boy Scout or Girl Scout of Troop 25/653 who earned Eagle/Gold award and baptized in the Eastern Orthodox Faith. Deadline June 21st.

Contact hilarispb@aol.com

-EOCS Scholarships:

Available to any Senior Boy or Girl Scout who earned Eagle/Gold and Alpha Omega. Deadline May 1st

<https://www.eocs.org/scholarship>

-Basil S. Hilaris Memorial Scholarship:

Available to students going into Medical/ Health Related fields Post Graduate or Multiyear Health related Programs.

Deadline: June 21st

Contact hilarispb@aol.com

GOYA:

Our GOYA continues to do everything we can to stay safe and healthy, waiting to be back together once again. We held our Greek dance classes for the last few months and participated in the Oratorical Festival. We would like to congratulate our participants: Athanasia Chandras, Tony Galiotos, Maria Galiotos and especially Alex Orrechio 1st Place Junior Essay, Stratos Chandras 1st Place Junior Speech and Emma Papanikolaou 1st Place Senior Speech.

It was finally decided to do a 4-hour track meet in place of Olympics this year but unfortunately it was a last-minute decision, and we did not have enough GOYAns available to participate. We still hope to have an End of Year gathering in June to at least say good-bye to our '28' seniors!

If there are any 7th graders or newcomers that are interested in joining our GOYA, please contact us at: goya.tenafly@gmail.com so you can be added to all new correspondence. GOYA Advisors are also in need.

Girl Scouts:

My troop, who are Cadettes bridging to Seniors, completed their Silver award. Their projects were as follows.

Anna Kira and Mia Callahan worked as a team making merchants in Tenafly conscious of plastic waste to help improve the impact in the environment.

Georgeena Gonedes worked at a senior center to improve the quality of life for residents by providing care and social interaction.

Anne Kambour helped to enhance the green acres by providing open space due to covid.

They will were awarded officially by council on a zoom call May 23rd. They recently attended the EOCS Camporee and had the chance to participate in the competition, including Archery and BB Gun.

The girls were also awarded the Alpha Omega this year.

Nazly Gonedes, Troop Leader

Boy Scouts:

We just attended the EOCS Camporee, in person, overnight camping, with precautions. It was held at Camp Alpine because St. Basil's was still closed to us. We had a fun day with our Boy Scouts sleeping over two nights and some Cubs and Girl Scouts joined us for the day.

We will be having an Eagle court of honor for the following Scouts on June 17th at church with limited capacity:

Michael Bacolas	Anthony Gallo
Jerry Makris	Evan Nicholas
Michael Papadopoulos	Niko Papaioannou
Sal Peragine	Paul Philliou
Peter Staphos	Daniel Struh
Dominic Struhs	

Congratulations to all of them!
Consider having your son join Scouts, grades kindergarten through high school. They will learn many life skills, leadership and communication skills included.
Call the church office or Hilarispb@aol.com

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms

Aubrey Eleni, daughter of Eleftherios and Caryn
(Graziano) Karsos, Ourania Karsos Sponsor

Penelope Panagiota, daughter of Ilias and Renee
(Rousouli) Fountoukidis, Parthena Frantzeskakis
Sponsor

Emmalina, daughter of Vincent and Michele
(Lavitola) Bufis, Nicole Corey Sponsor

Weddings

Kiriakos Coyle and Caitlin Bakofsky, Chris
Coyle Sponsor

CONGRATULATIONS!

Funerals

Paul Lolas
Kaye Madison
Spyros Metaxatos
Joyce Demetrakis
Gus Karageorge
Vasilias Tauriello
Peter Koutros
Dorothy Giannakaros
Theodore Lambrinos
Catherine Millas
Angeliki Gitoneas
Tina Caras
Jean Zisa
Maria Capetanakis

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL

Pentecost

June 20th

Festival

Hold the Dates

September

17th , 18th ,part of 19th