

THE WOICE



CELEBRÁTING CHARLOTTE'S GREEK COMMUNITY NEWS AND HISTORY

VOL. 84 HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL 600 EAST BLVD 704-334-4771 JUL/AUG 2023

NO. 03 https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityGreekOrthodoxCathedralCharlotte/ CHARLOTTE, NC 28203 www.htgo.org





On July 16, 2023, the community was informed that Rev. Dr. Jonathan Resmini has been appointed Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral by His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios. See the official announcement on page 4. Above, center, L-R: Director of Communications John Shelton, Parish Council President John Mahairas, Dean of the Cathedral Father Jonathan and Associate Priest Father Christian.

Left: June 22, 2023, Tarpon Springs, FL at the Grand Banquet on the first night of the Metropolis of Atlanta Biennial Clergy-Laity Conference, His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios with Holy Trinity's Olga Yamalis, after awarding her the Patriarch Athenagoras Medal for exemplary contributions to church music. (more on page 6)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28203

HOLY TRIVITY
Greek Orthodox Carhedral

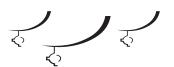
Permit No. 871

Charlotte, NC

PAID

U.S. Postage

noitszinsgrO thorq-noV



is to become faithful followers of Christ and thus active Greek Orthodox Christians by accepting and submitting to the Will of our Lord so that we may realize salvation and enter into the Kingdom of God.

Our Vision

With the Grace of God, to provide a loving and

caring Community where all belong to Christ,

through worship, sacramental life, everyday spiritual discipline, sanctification, education,

witness and fellowship.

Our Mission

INSIDE THIS ISSUE....

Reflections from the Pulpit 3

Meet Father Jerry 4

From the Choir Loft 6

Clergy-Laity Conference 6-7

Philoptochos 8

Around Charlottetown 9

In Memoriam 10

Greek School 11

STEWARDSHIP 2023

as of 08/29/23

YTD Financials	2023	2022
Stewardship	\$425,865	\$432,820
Candles, Rentals, Other	\$158,006	\$160,438
Building/IRRC/Renov. Donations	\$32,503	\$93,094
Minus: Operating Expenses	-\$703,779	-\$616,473
Minus: Building Fund Expenses	-\$300,265	-\$57,882
NET Income (Deficit)	-\$387,670	\$11,997

★ DID YOU KNOW that in 2023?

We have spent \$162,736 to re-do our gym roof repairing leaks.

Our average monthly electric bill is over \$4,820 so far.

Our average monthly gas bill is over \$3,725 so far.

Our average monthly facility repairs/maint. is over $\$9,\!800$ so far

 2023 Stewardship Budget
 \$710,000

 2023 YTD Pledges (205 families)
 \$237,725

Over half of the year has passed and approximately 50% of those on our mailing list have made financial donations. Please remember to show your support for our Cathedral by sending your financial commitment and volunteering your time and talents to help the Church. There are many ministries that need your help. Call the Church office for suggestions.

Welcome back.

While many members of our community headed for Greece this summer, Holy Trinity sent a strong delegation to the Biennial Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy-Laity Conference in Tarpon Springs, FL. Philoptochos and Federation of Church Musicians held there conferences there as well. See the multiple reports starting on page 6.

Father Jonathan, the officially designated Dean of the Cathedral, completes his thoughts on the Church as Hospital in Reflections from the Pulpit, page 3.

Greek School Director Olympia Koutsokalis writes about some of the memorable events and accomplishments in that important program during her first year. Find it on page 11.

By the time this arrives in your mailbox, know that we are just days away from the start of the 2023 Yiasou Festival. Starting Friday, September 8, our neighbors from around Charlotte will descend on 600 East Blvd. for food, family, and entertainment. We hope that you will give generously of your time and energy to volunteer as much as possible.

Thanks for reading.

GΖ

voice@htgo.org

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS			
Sunday, September 17	Saint Sophia and Her Daughters Faith, Hope, and Love Orthros 7:45am Divine Liturgy 9:00am		
Monday, September 18	Preschool Agiasmos		
Tuesday, September 19	Greek School Agiasmos		
Saturday, September 23	Centennial Gala Dinner at The Revelry		
Sunday, September 24	Orthros 7:45am Divine Liturgy 9:00am Centennial Brunch for the Community		
Sunday, October 1	First day of Sunday School		
J /	· ·		
Thursday, October 26	St. Demetrios the Great Martyr Orthros 8:15am Divine Liturgy 9:30am		
	St. Demetrios the Great Martyr Orthros 8:15am		
Thursday, October 26	St. Demetrios the Great Martyr Orthros 8:15am Divine Liturgy 9:30am General Assembly		
Thursday, October 26 Sunday, October 29	St. Demetrios the Great Martyr Orthros 8:15am Divine Liturgy 9:30am General Assembly Following Divine Liturgy		
Thursday, October 26 Sunday, October 29 Monday, October 30	St. Demetrios the Great Martyr Orthros 8:15am Divine Liturgy 9:30am General Assembly Following Divine Liturgy Fall Festival Sts. Cosmas and Damian Orthros 8:30am		

REMINDER:

Check the bulletin and website calendars for updates or call the Office at 704-334-4771 to add or update your email address.



Free Delivery

- 15% off the 3rd of Every Month on all Non-Prescription Items
- Drive Thru
- Durable Medical Equipment
- Six Month Supply Discount
- US Post Office

SOUTH END

SOUTH PARK

2334 South Blvd 4501 Cameron Valley Pkwy (704) 523-8608 (704) 367-7440

www.cannonpharmacies.com

Tell our advertisers that you saw their ad in:

THE VOICE

To place an ad, contact

Business Manager George Andrews at gandrews2018@gmail.com, or 704.364.7224

Next Issue: SEP/OCT 2023 DEADLINES:

for articles or photographs is:

Friday, October 20, 2023

Photos should be in large format .JPEG attachment (300 dpi min.)

for advertisements is:

Monday, October 9, 2023 Email to voice@htgo.org

THE VOICE

ELEBRATING CHARLOTTE'S GREEK COMMUNITY NEWS AND HISTO

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

600 East Boulevard Charlotte, NC 28203 704-334-4771

www.htgo.org
The Voice is the bimonthly
publication about Holy Trinity, its
parishioners, their faith, and the
community

THE VOICE STAFF:

George Zogzas, Guest Editor Roxanna Dimitriu, Editor Frances Zogzas, Copy Editor George Andrews, Business Manager

CLERGY:

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Resmini,

Dean of the Cathedral

Rev. Fr. Christian Siskos, *Associate Priest* Rev. Fr. George Politis, *Deacon*

CATHEDRAL STAFF:

Kathy Xyrafakis, Office Secretary
Frances Zogzas, Financial Secretary (PT)
George Petsas, Facilities Coordinator
John Shelton, Director of Communications
Sarah Vastis, Director of Youth Ministries
Irina Monzolevskaya, Organist
Dimitri Petropoulos, Chanter
Angelo Tatsis, Building Assistant (PT)
Maria Kleto, Preschool Director
Olympia Koutsokalis, Greek School Dir.

2023 PARISH COUNCIL (term ends):

John Mahairas (25) *President*George T. Karres (24) *Vice President*Lucy Pappadakes (23) *Secretary*Kathy Kanellopoulos (25) *Asst. Sec.*Vaki Karampourniotis (23) *Treasurer*Dean Peroulas (24) *Asst Treasurer*

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hunter Clarke (25)

Dimitri Dounis (24)

Drew Dudley (23), Elias Elia (23)

Gus A. Pappas (25)

Christina Skiouris (24)

Roula Skenteris (23), Stacey Vastis (24), Panos Ziozios (25)

THE VOICE Advertising Rates Rates are for ads in six issues.

Rates are subject to change

Ad Size	B&W	Color *
2 1/2" X 5"	\$275.00	\$300.00
5" X 5"	\$500.00	\$550.00
7 1/2" X 5"	\$750.00	\$825.00
5" X 10"	\$950.00	\$1,050.00
7 1/2" X 10"	\$1,425.00	\$1,550.00

Ad Size applies to portrait or landscape orientation.

* Color ads on back page only.

We also offer assistance with ad design.

Contact George Andrews at 704.364.7224, gandrews2018@gmail.com or send an email to voice@htgo.org

Use **ADVERTISE** in the subject line.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PULPIT



Rev. Dr. Jonathan Resmini,
Dean of the Cathedral

The Church as hospital Part 2 of 2

Part 1 of this series appeared in the JAN/APR 2023 edition of The Voice.

In my previous article, I wrote about the common Patristic understanding of the Church as a hospital. The Church is in the "business" of healing souls. It does so by employing a therapeutic method that has been cultivated throughout the history of the Church. In this follow-up, I will answer the question: What is the therapeutic method of the Church? That is to ask, what is the Church doing to provide spiritual healing? In doing so, I hope to give you all a better understanding of the ways that healing takes place, so that, God willing, you will seek out this spiritual/soul therapy

as you engage in the life of the Church.

In his writings, Metropolitan Hierotheos—whom I wrote about previously—suggests, "Therapy of the soul essentially means therapy and freeing of the nous." The nous, that is, the highest part of the human soul, has become ill—along with the rest of human nature— "through the fall away from God." The nous, sometimes translated as the intellect, is a part of the soul that thinks beyond language. It is faculty; it perceives purely. It attends to things. Therefore, in our state of spiritual illness, our attention is directed somewhere other than God intended namely, away from him. At its worst, it is fractured, along with our will. So, we are so distracted by things of this world that we are led to spiral into a state of perpetual sin-turning away from and missing our mark (which is to do the will of God).

In this state, fallen away from God, we find ourselves plagued by the ancestral sin—the tendency to sin that has been our plight since our forebears, Adam and Eve, first ate of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden, and failing to take responsibility for themselves. Our human nature forever bears the consequences of the fall in suffering for the illness of sin. Concerning the illness of our nature Metropolitan Vlachos writes, "This sickness is mainly the captivity and fall of the nous. The ancestral sin is that man withdrew from God, lost divine grace, and this resulted in blindness, darkness, and death of the nous. "He describes the "fall of man or the state of having

inherited sin" in a threefold manner:

- a) the failure of his intellectual power—that is, our ability to perceive God—to function soundly or even to function at all,
- b) the confusion of this power with the functions of the brain and body in general, and
- c) its resulting subjection to mental anguish and to the surrounding conditions.

Ultimately, this affects everyone to varying degrees, and therefore the therapeutic method is the work of the Church even in this present age. The Church will be a hospital for as long as its members need it.

The therapeutic methods employed by the Church throughout the ages are many and varied. If we were to ask, "Why do we do the things we do as Orthodox Christians?" We could confidently say that it is to provide a way of life oriented in all ways towards healing the soul from the illness of sin.

Why do we fast? Because our will has been damaged by the consequences of sin and it needs to be healed. We fast because it strengthens our will to deny ourselves when we find ourselves pulled towards sin. Why do come to the Church to worship? Because we are ill, and God is our great physician. He offers the medicines of His presence in the sacraments to heal us from the wounds caused by sin and the damage that is done to our nous (mind/intelligence) The sacraments are like prescriptions offered by God through His Church, to heal the wounds and consequences of

the illness of sin. Why do we come to confession? Because in the context of the confession, we are healed from our sins through God's loving kindness. In this context, our spiritual father, guided by the Holy Spirit, diagnoses the unique ways in which we are afflicted by this illness and offers encouragement and practices that will treat them. The beauty of this, particularly if you regularly go to the same priest for confession, is that he, like your primary care physician, will come to know your spiritual chart. He will know your story, and your spiritual medical history, and understand how to best treat you.

We do the things we do as Orthodox Christians because, for nearly two thousand years, men and women of faith have been healed through the healing practices of the Church. We do these things because they work. If you wish to be healed, you need only come to the Church, and live the life of faith with all its prescribed practices and God will provide healing through His Church. While we might feel a bit of shame for needing healing in the first place, I hope we can all find comfort in knowing that every saint has gone through this same treatment. Every saint began as a person ill with the sickness of sin. Each of us, like the saints, can participate in the soul therapy that the Church provides. I encourage all of us to take the first step towards healing, come to our spiritual hospital, the Church, and allow Christ, our great Physician, and Healer to pour forth His therapeutic grace.



All Aboard for St. Stephens Summer Camp

Holy Trinity had a total of 51 kids participate in St. Stephen's Camp at the Diakonia Center over the summer, 36 attended during Week 3 July 9-15. Pictured at left, some of the 36 riding a bus down for Week 3.





PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

by John Mahairas



Seeking Your Input for Our Parish's Next 100 Years

I hope this message finds you well.

As we look to the future of our beloved Holy Trinity

Greek Orthodox Cathedral, I am excited to announce that we are embarking on a journey to create a strategic plan that will guide us for the next one hundred years. Our goal is to ensure that our church continues to thrive and serve our community in the best possible way.

To make this strategic plan truly reflective of our parish's values and aspirations, we would like to invite each of you to contribute your ideas and insights. Your input is invaluable in shaping the direction we will take as a church. Whether you have thoughts on enhancing our worship experience, expanding community outreach,

improving facilities, or any other aspect, we want to hear from you.

Please take a moment to share your ideas through one of the following methods:

- Email: president@htgo.org.
- Drop off written suggestions at the church office.
- Attend our future upcoming townhall meetings to discuss your ideas in person.

Let us come together as a united congregation, pooling our creativity and wisdom, to map a course through the next century for our church. Your participation is crucial, and I eagerly await the innovative ideas you will bring to the table.

Thank you for your dedication and continued support.

Yours in faith,

College Bound Students Send Off Dinner

Sunday, August 6, 2023, Holy Trinity hosted some of its college bound students for dinner to celebrate their big next step. Students and their families enjoyed a delicious meal and fellowship.





MEET FATHER JERRY HALL

Editor's Note: The Voice asked Fr. Jerry Hall to help us introduce him to the wider Holy Trinity community by telling us about his background, family, and anything else he thought we would like to know. Here, in his own words, is what he told us.

Presbytera Helene and I moved to Huntersville last September following my retirement from 34 years of service to Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Akron, Ohio. Northeast Ohio had been home to both of us and we met in pharmacy school at Ohio Northern University. We married and began our work as pharmacists and soon after I embraced the Orthodox faith at the Annunciation parish. Shortly thereafter I discerned a calling to the priesthood and to serve the church. After graduating from Holy Cross in 1988, I had the unique opportunity to serve our home parish, Annunciation; both as the assistant for 6 years and then later as proistamenos, for a total of 34 years of ministry.

It was the love for Orthodox worship, theology and spirituality and the desire to share the faith, along with the opportunity to serve and encourage people on their own spiritual journey that led me to the priesthood.

Presently we are enjoying retirement and the opportunities to travel and visit our children and grandchildren and to



establish a new life here in the greater Charlotte area.

I like to read, swim, exercise and work in the garden. This fall I am enrolled in a Master Gardener program in Rock Hill and am enjoying learning new things and expanding my knowledge.

Presbytera Helene has retired from retail pharmacy but works remotely for a company that recruits patients for medical studies and trials. She enjoys reading, artwork, quilting and everything creative.

We have four sons and five grandchildren which keep us busy babysitting and traveling for visits.

We are very thankful for the warm welcome we have received from the Holy Trinity Community!

Fr Jerry Hall

Official Notification of the Appointment of Fr. Jonathan Resmini as

Dean of the Cathedral



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS or ATLANTA ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΤΛΑΝΤΑΣ

July 11, 2023

Fr. Jonathan Resmini, Mr. John Mahairas, Esteemed Parish Council President & Esteemed Parish Council Members & all the Faithful of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 600 East Blvd

Charlotte, NC 28203

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I greet you with love and joy in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, praying that you and your loved ones experience His blessings of health, rest, and relaxation, during this summer season.

As your loving spiritual father, it gladdens my heart to be able to officially notify your Cathedral community that I have decided to appoint Rev. Fr. Jonathan Resmini as the Dean of Holy Trinity. When called upon to serve you all as Interim Dean (following the previous Dean's decision to seek another opportunity elsewhere in our Archdiocese) Fr. Jonathan stepped up, out of a desire to ensure that the spiritual needs of his brothers and sisters in Christ were being fulfilled. Since that time, it has been wonderful to see how the positive relationship between Fr. Jonathan & the parish has grown and flourished, and so it seemed only right to make his service as Dean official.

I am certain that you know how much happiness it brings me that Holy Trinity Cathedral will remain in good hands, and for many years to come.

Praying that all your endeavors continue to be blessed, I remain,

Paternally yours with blessings and love in Christ,

+ALEXIOS
Metropolitan of Atlanta

2480 Clairmont Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30329 Telephone: 404-634-9345 Fax: 404-634-2471 Web: www.atlmetropolis.org E-mail: info@atlmetropolis.org

Memories for a Lifetime

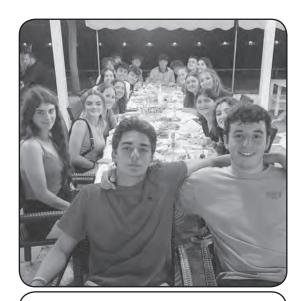
My name is John Michael Xyrafakis. On June 27, 2023, I embarked on a journey throughout the Peloponnese with twenty high school students and eight chaperones. The program was called the HDF Odyssey, and we studied Greek dance from different places.

On our first full day, we left Athens and went to Nafplion. We toured the town, visited the Peloponnesian folk museum, and visited the theater at Epidaurus. After a few nights in Nafplion, we took a day trip to Karyes, Arachova, where we had our first and my favorite workshop. When the locals found out we were there to learn about the dances of Arachova, they joined us and started dancing and singing. After the workshop, they insisted on treating us to lunch. We had great conversations with them.

Our next destination was Kalamata. On the way to Kalamata, we stopped at the beautiful archeological site of Mystras. In Kalamata, we had three workshops, and we went to multiple Glendi's. The following city was Patras. On the way to Patras, we stopped at the Olympia stadium, and we even got to race on the field. In Patras, we had two workshops, and we presented

a dance on ERT news.

From Patras, we returned to Athens, visited the Acropolis, and said our goodbyes. I am forever grateful to HDF for creating this beautiful program that happens every four years. The memories and friendships that I made are priceless and will last me a lifetime.



Above: John Michael, front right, with the rest of the members of HDF Odyssey 2023 at dinner in Greece.

Below: The members of HDF Odyssey 2023 in front of the Parthenon.



Odyssey Program Summer 2023



Every 4 years, our Hellenic Dance Festival offers youth of the Metropolis of Atlanta an experience to learn the beauty of our Faith and Culture by traveling to Greece for 10 days. Participants will travel as a group and participate in Dance Workshops, Performances, Village Panigyris, and visit various Cultural & Historical Sites. This trip will allow interested teens an opportunity to experience Greece as a local. By having our annual HDF, the Odyssey program covers the cost for the land travel while we are in Greece, covering hotels, most meals, tour guides, transportation, workshops, etc.

There are several purposes of this program. This opportunity is meant to inspire our young people to value and contribute to cultural opportunities by experiencing traditional Greek folk dance in its natural setting. Participants can gain a deeper appreciation for our Hellenic Culture and rich Orthodox faith and tradition. Odyssey Scholarships are offered to individuals who are dedicated to the ideals and mission of the Hellenic Dance Festival. Following the Odyssey journey, participants are expected to share their experience and knowledge with others. They should be active participants in the local parishes, as well as the Metropolis sponsored HDF weekend and beyond.

All current High School Students (graduating seniors allowed) in the Metropolis of Atlanta were invited to apply.

Congratulations to the 2023 Odyssey Recipients!

Evanthia Bilson, Eleni Cole, Konstantin Garofalis, Theodora Gouletas, Maria Karagiorgis, Alexandros Katsoudas, Henry King, Nolan Krisik, Kyriaki Lagoutaris, Angelina Lembessis, Alexander Makris, Mark Masterjohn, Gabriella Mayes, Alyssa Natour, Christopher Patsalos, Evelyn Pistolis, Alexandra Powell, Niko Tiller, Elias Tsioutsias, John Michael Xyrafakis, Anastasia Zaharis

Now more than ever, personalized advice matters



The L/A Wealth Management Group

John J. Anderson, CFP*
Senior Vice President
Wealth Management Advisor
980.282.1738

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management 6000 Fairview Road Suite 600 Charlotte, NC 28210 704.705.3332



Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (also referred to as "MLPF&S" or "Merrill") makes available certain investment products sponsored, managed, distributed or provided by companies that are affiliates of Bank of America Corporation ("BofA Corp."). MLPF&S is a registered broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, Member SIPC and a wholly owned subsidiary of BofA Corp.

The Bull Symbol and Merrill are registered trademarks of Bank of America Corporation. CFP Board owns the marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, and CFP® (with plaque design) in the U.S. © 2023 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved.

MAP5272720 | AD-07-23-0196.A | 470944PM-0123 | 07/2023

THE VOICE

Are you a writer?
A photographer?
Skilled in the use of InDesign?

The Voice, your community publication, can benefit from your time and talent.

Email Roxanna Dimitriu at voice@htgo.org to learn more.

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT by Olga Yamalis



June 22, 2023: The choir members at the SFGOCM Conference, conducted by Holy Trinity's Lucy Pappadakes, perform at the opening day banquet

This summer, the 45th annual choir conference of the Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (SFGOCM) was held in conjunction with our Atlanta Metropolis Clergy Laity in Tarpon Springs, FL June 22-25.

Pappadakes was also this year's Guest Conductor throughout the conference. The Guest Organist and the composer of Sunday's Liturgical music was JoAnn Andros, Metropolis of Dunedin, FL. Lucy conducted both Thursday night Grand Banquet and Sunday's Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Four members of HTC Choir attended: Lucy Pappadakes, Pauline Velonis, Cecelia Kotsipias, and Olga Yamalis.

Highlights of the conference include Thursday night's Grand Banquet, Friday night's Island Night at the Sponge Docks, Saturday night's Folk Song Sing-along, and Sunday's Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.



June 22, 2023: Holy Trinity's Olga Yamalis with His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios who awarded her the Patriarch Athenagoras choir music award.

On Thursday's Grand Banquet, the federation choir performed a small concert which included Enas Pefkos, Soma Christou, God Bless America, and May the Road Rise Up to Meet You (Irish Blessing Song). In addition to that evening, this year's Patriarch Athenagoras choir-music-award for contributions towards the music ministry in our Diocese was presented to Olga Yamalis. She has contributed 32 years of service within two Dioceses (Detroit and Atlanta), two years as SFGOCM Recording Secretary, SFGOCM Youth Initiatives chair, and the last 15 years

were in HTC choir for both adults and youth.

At Friday's Island Night at the Sponge Docks, choir members enjoyed the evening eating Tarpon's delicious and amazing Greek cuisine, and Greek-danced the night away under the stars with all attendees of the conference, including clergy, presvyteres, choir members, parish delegates, and Philoptochos.

Saturday night included Folk Song Sing-along; the federation choir members enjoyed dinner and drinks and sang unforgettable Greek folk songs like Xekina mia Psaropoula, Ta Vraholia tis Vrontoun, Maria Me Ta Kitrina, and Samiotisa.

At Sunday morning's Hierarchical Liturgy with both Metropolitan Alexios and Bishop Sevastianos, the sounds were incredible, rich and uplifting. Lucy showed her stellar contribution by conducting throughout the entire conference and conducting the Liturgy, having the choir split on both sides of the solea. A great big thanks to her and to the Tarpon host of St. Nicholas for a fantastic job well done!

The 47th annual National Forum conference took place this summer on July 13 through 16, in St. Louis, MO. The National Forum is the overall nation's music ministry and meets each year to strengthen the Liturgical music for not only our SFGOCM federation in the Atlanta Diocese, but for all eight choir federations throughout the nation. The annual meeting featured contemporary committee discussions about choir improvement, chanter development, youth involvement, and developing church music as a ministry throughout the nation. HTC's Choir Director Lucy Pappadakes attended as one of our Atlanta's diocese delegate, and continued her duties as Publications Chair for the Forum.

Highlights of the conference include excursion to the St. Louis Arch, Muny Opera Outdoor Music Theater to see West Side Story, and Sunday morning's Divine Liturgy.

What's forthcoming this Fall for choir? It's time for our choral performances at our Yiasou Greek Festival and for our Centennial Celebration weekend. More to follow on these two big September events. We would love for you to join our choir family! All are welcome!

BIENNIEL CLERGY-LAITY 2023

reported by the delegates



For four days, beginning June 22, 2023, the Metropolis of Atlanta held its biennial Clergy-Laity Conference. The clergy and parishioners of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Tarpon Springs, FL hosted for the event. All activities related to the conference were held at the Innisbrook Golf Resort.

Our delegation included Fr. Jonathan, Frances and George Zogzas, and John Shelton. The Philoptochos and Southeastern Federation of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (SFGOCM) conferences were held during the same time at

Innisbrook, continuing a practice begun several years ago (see their reports on pages 6 and 8).

The Opening Night Banquet was held on Thursday evening. From a Holy Trinity perspective, the night included a speech by Metropolis Philoptochos President Irene Politis, the choir was conducted by Lucy Pappadakes, and Olga Yamalis received the prestigious Patriarch Athenagoras Medal for outstanding contributions to the music programs in the Metropolis.

Breakout sessions began on Friday, June 23. Our delegation split up among the different sessions to cover as many of them as possible. Their reports follow.

Reports from Frances Zogzas

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY (FLM)

EngageOrthodoxy.net (EO) is a resource website that can be used for everyone – even youth & Sunday School. FLM has programs for marriage preparation, marriage & family retreats at the DRC as well as youth retreats, blogs & podcasts, & creative and engaging material helping individuals and families lead a Christ-centered, Orthodox life.

FLM has produced these 2 books for youth: (EO hosts a blog for each of these books)

- Woven is designed to develop faith and fellowship among our teen girls • Engaging illustrations, fun activities, journaling • 30-page facilitator guide available for free at woveninhislove.org
- *Forged* is an interactive book for young men (Jr/Sr & college). It uses a structure that appeals to a young man's sense of adventure and problem solving.

MAINTAINING A STRONG PHILOPTOCHOS

This session was more informative than I expected. We discussed how to increase participation. It is the philanthropic right arm of the church but collaborative efforts with the parish priest, parish council and our Church membership is a must.

- Philoptochos & PC have common purpose to promote church, family and culture. Have events for the entire parish, including youth & families, not just members. Keep our faith at the center of all that we do.
- Have a liaison to the PC, keeping everyone informed to prevent conflicts & misunderstandings.
- Focus on the next generation offer membership to graduating students 18 and over.

continued on next page

Announcing

Carolinas Commercial Brokerage

A Charlotte based firm

We help clients:

- ✓ Buy and sell commercial property
- ✓ Buy and sell existing restaurant space
- ✓ Investments through 1031 tax deferred transactions [1031 transactions are handled by Hazlehurst & Blake PLLC law firm].
- ✓ Provide free valuation of your restaurant business
- ✓ In person private consultations
- ✓ Registered to MLS for residential needs
- Speak fluent Greek

Contact me today to discuss your property needs.

Tony Tsurunakis 443-226-9906 AdoniosT20@Gmail.com



THE BIENNIAL METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA CLERGY-LAITY CONFERENCE

Tarpon Springs, Florida - June 22 - 25, 2023

continued from previous page

Events don't have to be on a grand scale or even cost much; have fun events like monastery or winery visits. Be open to new ideas and opportunities. Don't get stuck in rut doing same things every year. And not everything has to be a fundraiser.

• Report outcome of your efforts to your community and remember to thank everyone involved.

SUICIDE PREVENTION/RESPONSE

The statistics are scary. Mental health issues are on the rise especially during and after the pandemic. ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) teaches how to recognize someone who may be suicidal and work with them for their safety. Peace of Mind is also a program which our community participated in a couple of months ago. SafeTalk is another training session for suicidal alertness. Our Metropolis website has information and resources on all these to help our Priests and families deal with this issue.

EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Challenge: Not putting Jesus in the center of our world due to *self-preoccupation*, *self-doubt & loneliness*, *and choice paralysis* (too many choices in life).

We need to: know Jesus, belong to the full community at Church, know true-self, & listen/pay attention to seek deeper understandings. Consider personal reflections by sitting in stillness with no phones and pray. Have prayer workshops with youth leading discussions, with guest speakers, with testimonials. Need to have multi-generational events.

The Metropolis has a 9 month cohort commitment program that groups can participate in to teach us how to have a better effective Christian ministry.

FR. STEPHEN FREEMAN – SHAME AND THE NAKED SOUL

Excellent speaker. I recommend listening to him on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN5Ds731 ESYMNCKDKRXhOH8w0u bYJQr3

Reports from George Zogzas

SAFETY AND CYBERSECURITY

The session was led by Theo Nickolakis, Chief Information Officer for the Archdiocese (GOA), via video conference. The Archdiocese has been developing a security infrastructure to help protect its members and institutions from cyber threats with sponsorship from Leadership 100.

The parish mindset should not be: "What are we doing wrong?" but "What can we do to protect our faith community?"

Physical Safety:

Establish a security committee and meet with law enforcement to learn about best practices for personal security. We already have a police officer on premises during church services.

Do not underestimate the power of "hello and welcome" at the front door.

Cybersecurity:

Parishes should be thinking about adopting corporate devices and emails for parish clergy and employees in place of personal emails. In the event of a hack of the parish system, immediately notify (1) the attorney general and (2) the impacted individuals.

Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, a Federal Government agency, offers training and certification in cybersecurity (www.cisa.gov).

The message from the GOA: parishes will be unable to get insurance coverage if they do not implement appropriate cybersecurity measures.

ORTHODOX PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

This session was led by Fr. Paul Kaplanis and Fr. Christos Mars from Annunciation Cathedral in Atlanta, GA. Their Day School has been open since 2002. It started small and built up. At first focusing on the mission, goals, and identifying the target audience. Next focus shifted to accreditation, curriculum, and staffing.

Governance: The School Board is comprised of parishioners and includes the Parish Council President + 3 Parish Council members; Fr. Paul and Fr. Christos (both non-voting)

Financials: The General Assembly approves the school's annual budget (currently \$1.6 million), the School Board is accountable for meeting those financial goals.

Student body: approximately 50% are orthodox, 25% from their own parish and there are scholarships (funded by endowments)

Staffing: Benefits include group health insurance, 403(b) savings plans

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This session was led by Gerry Clonaris from St. Nektarios.

His ideas for developing a successful adult program: (a) Offer classes in the evening; (b) Utilize video conferencing (i.e. Zoom, Teams, etc.); (c) Reach beyond your own parish; (d) Use Metropolis website for ideas and materials (link: https://atlmetropolis.org/religious-education-resources); (e) attend workshops at the DRC

For Sunday school programs, (1) maintain consistency in the curriculum, and (2) have parents bringing their children to the first class of each school year to enforce the idea that all parties are involved in a successful religious education experience.

OCMC

The Orthodox Christian Mission Center session was led by Steve and Theofani Sarigianis. They are OCMC missionaries that serve in Albania. They are a young couple who both attended HCHC and have been in Albania for two years. They are back in the USA awaiting the birth of their first child. The plan is to return to Albania.

They, and OCMC, can use the support of all the Orthodox parishes and parishioners to fund their work.

THE PLENARY SESSION

Held on Saturday, June 24, 2023, highlights included:

Dr. George Cantonis, outgoing president of Hellenic College/Holy Cross (HCHC), reported that the schools have achieved financial stability, reduced their outstanding debt, and had their accreditation restored. He said the value of HCHC is in the number of priests that have passed through the school.

The Metropolis of Atlanta instituted an independent audit of its financials 7 years ago. For 2022, the auditors reported that everything was in order.

The Chancellor Fr. George Tsahakis reported that Holy Cross/Holy Apostles Church in Greenville, NC became the 74th parish in the Metropolis. A parish is being formed in Jacksonville, NC.

The 2025 Metropolitan Clergy-Laity Conference will be in Charleston, SC.

There were also reports from the Metropolis Treasurer; Diakonia Retreat Center, Religious Education; and the Archons.





www.copycatsouth.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE by Nick and Carmen Kallelis

On September 2023, we celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the founding of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Beginning with thirty families in September 1923, the first services were held in the homes of those families. Since then, the Holy Trinity community has grown to approximately 1,100 families.

In the past thirteen months we honored our founders, leaders and stewards who helped achieve this monumental marker. As we set our goals for the next 100 years, continued success and growth require that everyone able to be involved in stewardship fully participate, providing their talents and leadership in our ministries.

The future of Holy Trinity is in our youth, young adults, growing our membership and helping to upgrade an aging facility. In the past, we have relied on a few to serve as stewards in our ministries and committees. As we start our new century of growth, let us all commit to sharing the talent and skills needed to accomplish the goals leading to the same success passed on to us by the founders of Holy Trinity.

This October there will be an opportunity to show our commitment by participating in the Open Budget meeting and Parish Assembly. You may even consider running for Parish Council (5 seats are up for election each year) or the Foundation (1 or 2 seats are up each year). Nominations open at the Parish Assembly with elections held in December.

October is also our Stewardship Month. There is an opportunity for everyone to share their talents by signing up for a ministry or even starting a ministry which is not currently available.

Our facility is getting older every year and there are several repairs and improvements to be addressed. It will be helpful if able people consider assisting in resolving or recommending possible solutions. All suggestions and concerns are welcome. We cannot address problems unless we are aware of them. Open dialogue and transparency are helpful to improve communications.

The October Open Budget meeting and General Assembly meeting will include plans and funding for major expenses to address the aging East Boulevard facilities, as well as hear about the status of the proposed parochial school. The budget of over one million dollars should be of interest to all the church community. Let us have record attendance and solid participation by our dedicated stewards.

Attention Newlyweds and Graduates

To place your wedding or graduation announcement in *The Voice*'s Around Charlottetown section, please email a photo (JPEG format) and a brief writeup to Kathy Xyrafakis (kathy@htgo.org).

We will include it in an upcoming issue.



Catering with Chick-fil-A is easy! We offer a wide range of options from our signature Chick-fil-A Chicken Nugget Trays to our wonderful selection of Boxed Meals. Keep in mind that we also cater our breakfast, so if you are having an early meeting, don't forget Chick-fil-A!

Andre Harakas & John Tsumas



101 South Tryon St

(704) 344-0222







South End 3015 South Boulevard (704)665-6371

PHILOPTOCHOS by Pamela Bostian

As we bask in the warmth of summer, we are happy to share some wonderful updates and upcoming events. Our members' dedication and hard work continue to make a profound impact, and we are happy to celebrate these accomplishments.

National Philoptochos Executive Board Contribution - Care Cradle Program at Atrium Health

We are thrilled to announce that the National Philoptochos Executive Board has generously granted \$18,285 to support the Care Cradle Program at Atrium Health in Charlotte, NC. These funds, sourced from the 2021 Children's Medical Fund, will play a vital role in offering comfort and solace to families facing unimaginable loss. The Care Cradle Program's "cuddle cots" and accompanying amenities provide compassionate support during a challenging time. Irene Politis, Metropolis of Atlanta Philoptochos President, and Catherine Poulimenos, Agia Elpis Philoptochos Chapter President, presented the check to Patricia Beckas of the Atrium Health Foundation.



L-R: Metropolis President Irene Politis with Atrium Health Foundation representative Patricia Beckas and Agia Elpis Chapter President Cathy Poulimenos

Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Conference Recap

Diane Ramsay was our delegate at the 2023 Metropolis of Atlanta Clergy Laity Assembly and Philoptochos Conference, held in Tarpon Springs, Florida, from June 22nd to 25th. The conference was a resounding success, featuring insightful speakers and informative workshops. Human Trafficking was a main topic of discussion. During the conference, our involvement in partnering with the Hunger Fight organization to pack food for the needy exemplifies our commitment to making a positive difference. *Looking ahead*, mark your calendars for the 2025 Metropolis Clergy Laity conference, which will be hosted in Charleston, SC.

Yiasou Greek Festival Preparations

Our members and volunteers have been busy baking and packaging pastries in anticipation of the upcoming 2023 Yiasou Greek Festival (September 8 - 10). Your commitment to this cherished event is truly commendable. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who have invested their time and efforts to make this festival a success.

St. Phanourios Tray - August 27th

A tray in honor of St Phanourios was available during the church service on August 27th.

The proceeds collected will be donated to support the youth programs of our Metropolis. Your contributions will go a long way in nurturing the growth and development of the next generation within our communities.

Agape Celebration Luncheon (Raleigh, NC) - September 16th

The Agape Celebration Luncheon, hosted by the Raleigh Philoptochos Chapter, will be held on September 16, 2023 at the Carolina Country Club in Raleigh, NC. The luncheon is a special event dedicated to supporting education and youth programs within our Metropolis.

Agia Elpis Chapter Name Day Artoklasia and Coffee Hour - September 17th

On Sunday, September 17th, Philoptochos will host a special Artoklasia and Coffee Hour in honor of our Chapter's Name Day. Let us come together to celebrate this meaningful occasion. Additionally, a Scholarship Tray will be available during the church service to support Holy Cross/Hellenic College, ensuring that education remains accessible and enriching for our young minds.

Upcoming Events and General Meeting

Our board members convened on August 10th to lay the groundwork for the upcoming year's events. The board agreed to support the Agape Celebration Luncheon (Raleigh, NC) with a \$1000 sponsorship. We invite you to join us for our first General Meeting on Tuesday, October 10th, at 6:00 PM in the Church Social Room. Your presence and input are invaluable as we shape the future of our chapter's initiatives for the upcoming year.

AROUND CHARLOTTETOWN by Kathy Xyrafakis

Housiadas

Stephanie and Pavlos Housiadas were married on Sunday, June 25, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Stephanie is the daughter of Brian and Angela Williams and Chris and Arlene Mesch. Pavlos is the son of George and Maria Housiadas. After the wedding ceremony, a reception was held at The Ruth. The couple honeymooned in Greece and live in Charlotte.



Pihakis - Ireland

Anna Sophia Pihakis and David Ireland were married on Saturday, June 24, 2023. The ceremony took place at Holy Trinity Cathedral and was followed by a reception at The Ruth. Anna Sophia is the daughter of Photini and the late Constantine Pihakis. David is the son of Michael Ireland and Linda Mook. Following a mini moon in Mexico and honeymoon in Greece, the couple returned to Charlotte.

Usher - Phillips

Kayton Elizabeth Usher and James Austin Phillips were married on Sunday, July 23, 2023. The ceremony was in St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Savannah, GA, followed by a reception at St. Paul's Hellenic Center. Kayton is the daughter of Michael and Erica Usher. Austin is the son of James and Maria Phillips. The couple honeymooned in Aruba and live in Rincon, GA.







WHOOO'S IN THE NEWS AT PRESCHOOL?

by Maria Kleto

The preschool hallways are always quiet during the summer months

without the sounds of the children's voices. July and August are the times for us to reflect on the previous year and to prepare for the upcoming school year. The preschool will open on Monday, September 18th with an Open House and Agiasmos/Blessing of the preschool. The first day of class will begin on Tuesday, September 19th. The teachers are eagerly awaiting the children's arrival back at preschool and we are looking forward to an exciting year.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Preschool is a religious based half day program for ages 18 months old to 4/5 years old. The hours are from 9:15 am to 1:15 pm. Since the preschool experience is a child's first step into the world beyond the family, we strive to accept each child as a unique individual. We approach the children's emotional and educational needs in a loving and supportive manner, helping them become independent and confident in their abilities.

Our goal is to provide each child a challenging experience with opportunities to build relationships with other children and to enrich them with a variety of Greek language and Orthodox Christian centered activities.

Our mission is to allow each child the opportunity to master the appropriate skills needed for school readiness.

We are committed to the fulfillment of each child's developmental needs and work to create a positive learning environment in which each child can grow to his or her full potential.

In late August and early September, we will turn our focus to the Yiasou Greek Festival. *The Play-land Beverage Booth* is operated primarily by the preschool staff and parents and all the proceeds benefit the preschool. The week following the festival, the teachers will be back preparing their classrooms for the arrival of the children and the beginning of the school year.

If you are interested in registering your child, need additional information regarding preschool, check on class availability, please contact the Preschool Office at 704-333-4961 or preschool@htgo.org; also, call the Director, Maria Kleto, at 704-564-5842.

Many blessings to all our preschool families, friends and parishioners as the summer comes to an end and as we look forward to the start of the new school year.

In Appreciation:

The Family of +Konstantinos Georgiou would like to thank everyone for all of your prayers, calls, visits and cards during their difficult time of his passing. May his Memory be Eternal.

Training Acolytes

Acolyte Training was held on Monday, August 14. The session was led by Father Christian, Yianni Margiotis, and Manoli Kanellakis. If you are a rising 4th grader and would like to serve in the Altar, please contact sarah@htgo.org to set up a training session.



In Memoriam



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." John 11:25



Nicholas Kakavitsas

Nicholas Kakavitsas, 62, passed unto the Lord on Thursday, August 10th, 2023. He was born September 18, 1960 in Neochori Evrytanias, Greece, son of Haralabos Kakavitsas and Spyridoula Zaharopoulos Kakavitsas.

In addition to his parents, Nick is survived by two children, Samantha and Harry Kakavitsas; a grandchild, Theodore Nikolaos Williams, and his siblings, Dimitrios Kakavitsas (Eleftheria), Konstantia Kanellos (Athanasios), Eleni Mitsios (Konstantinos), Paraskevi Kakavitsas (Georgios), Margarita Koutsokalis, and Maria Kakavitsas as well as many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Charlotte, NC. The family received friends starting at 10:00 AM prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.



Khalil Elie Kardous

Khalil "Kal" Elie Kardous passed away unexpectedly at his home in Charlotte on Wednesday, August 2, 2023. He was born June 12, 1942 in Damascus, Syria, to Elie and Chahira Kardous.

He is survived by his wife, Marie-Claire; his son, Paul; his brothers, Farid Kardous (Mary) and Kamil Kardous (Jouhaina) and sister, May Maalouf (Ghassan). Also surviving are his nieces and nephews, Lynn, Sami, Nadim and his wife Tamara, Elie, Karim, Sean and his wife, Christina, and Shahira and her husband, Ted.

Funeral services for Kal were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, August 11, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

Nikolitsa Kizinopoulou

Nikolitsa Kizinopoulou peacefully passed away on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at the age of 84 Born in Agrinion,



Greece, in 1938, she was the daughter of Ermioni Alerta Ladopoulou and Evangelos Ladopoulos. Nikolitsa was married to Gregory Kizinopoulos and together they raised three children, Stavroula, Vasileios, and Augustine. She was also blessed with the joy of her five grandchildren, Fotini, Nickoleta, Gregory, Konstantinos and Marios.

Funeral services for Nikolitsa were held at 11:00 AM on Monday, July 3, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.



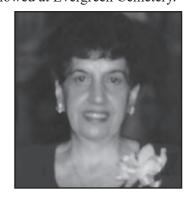
Stavroula Metaxas

Stavroula "Voula" Metaxas unexpectedly and peacefully passed away at her home in Pineville, NC the evening of Sunday, August 13, 2023, at age 85. She was the youngest of five children born to Stavros Gerakoulia and Elleni Orphanidis on November 8, 1937 in Ilioupoli, Athens, Greece.

Voula is survived by her son,

Stellios Metaxas (Natalie); her three grandchildren and two step-grandchildren, Parker (13), John Peyton (11), Dionysios (5), Kaleigh (24) and Ava (14). She was preceded in death by both of her parents and all of her siblings.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM on Friday, August 25, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 600 East Blvd, Charlotte, NC. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.

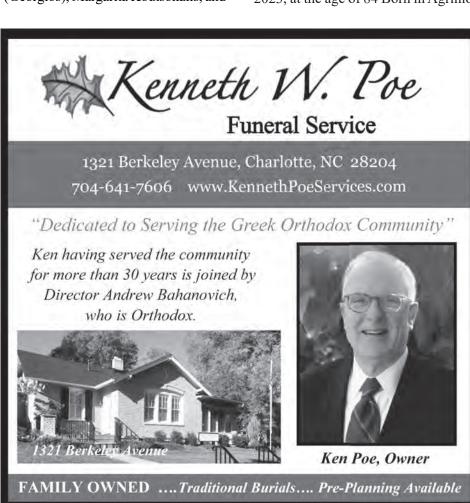


Elaine Matalas Michaels

Elaine Matalas Michaels passed away peacefully at her home on Monday, July 3, 2023. She was born on November 4,1935 in Vandalia, IL to the late Constantinos (Gus) Matalas, and Mary Komnenos Matalas.

Elaine is survived by her daughter, Teri Michaels; son, Charles Michaels (Michelle); two granddaughters, Caitlin and Allison Michaels, all of Charlotte. Also surviving are her sister, Penny Matalas Manuel; sister-in-law, Stella Dross Matalas, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of forty-five years, Basil Charles Michaels and her brother, Nicholas Constantinos Matalas.

Funeral Services were held at 12:30 PM on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Internment followed at Evergreen Cemetery.





Νέα & Φωνές του Ελληνικού Σχολείου Αγίας Τριάδας

Είμαι ιδιαίτερα χαρούμενη που άλλη μια σχολική χρονιά ήρθε στο τέλος της. Τη χρονιά αυτή που πέρασε θέλησα να κάνω έναν απολογισμό, και να δω ποια ήταν τα γεγονότα που έμειναν χαραγμένα στη μνήμη των μαθητών και όλων εμάς. Θα ήθελα να αναφερθώ ξεχωριστά σε κάθε εκδήλωση που έλαβε χώρα.

Cutting of the Vasilopita

Στις αρχές Ιανουαρίου, μετά από τις Χριστουγεννιάτικες διακοπές του Σχολείου μας, τα μέλη του Συλλόγου Γονέων και Δασκάλων οργάνωσαν και πάλι με μεγάλη φροντίδα, χαρά και αγάπη την εκδήλωση για την κοπή της βασιλόπιτας και στα δυο



Ο π. Christian μίλησε στους μαθητές για τη σημασία της κοπής της βασιλόπιτας, διάβασαν τις ωραιότατες προσευχές και ευχήθηκαν σε όλους τους παρευρισκόμενους (μαθητές, γονείς, εκπαιδευτικούς και μέλη του Συλλόγου) να έχουν ένα ευτυχισμένο και δημιουργικό Νέο Έτος. Στη συνέχεια, έκοψαν και μοίρασαν τις πίτες από το Mocco Bistro. Οι πίτες , κάθε μια με το δικό της «φλουρί», ήταν, όπως πάντοτε, νοστιμότατες και έδωσαν χαρά στους τυχερούς των «φλουριών» όπως βλέπετε και στην φωτογραφία.

Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters

Την Κυριακή 29 Ιανουαρίου, μαθητές, γονείς, φίλοι και επίσημοι παραβρέθησαν στο κοινοτικό κέντρο Αγίας Τριάδος για να τιμήσουν με την παρουσία τους την μνήμη των Τριών Ιεραρχών, να γιορτάσουν τα Ελληνικά γράμματα και να συγχαρούν τους επιτυχόντες στις Εξετάσεις Ελληνομάθειας 2022. Οι μαθητές της πέμπτης και έκτης τάξης διάβασαν αποσπάσματα από πολύτιμα συγγράμματα και χόρεψαν παραδοσιακούς χορούς. Ο κ. Μάνθος Σταμούλης μαζί με την κ. Μαρία Περούλα δώσανε τα πιστοποιητικά Ελληνομάθειας στους μαθητές και η κ. Βιβή Καραμπουρνιώτη μοίρασε τα Ελληνικά Λεξικά στη Β τάξη.

Οι παρακάτω λάβανε πιστοποιητικό ελληνομάθειας. Συγχαρητήρια!

William Vrochides -A1 Magda Vrochides -A1 Eliana Mitrou-A2 Sofia Georgouolias -A2 Athena Kotrotsios-B1 Isabelle Landry-B2 Anna Maria Minakakis-C1

MARCH 25TH 2023

Την Κυριακή, 26 Μαρτίου το Ελληνικό Σχολείο Αγίας Τριάδος γιόρτασε και φέτος με λαμπρότητα τη μεγάλη διπλή γιορτή του Ευαγγελισμού της Θεοτόκου μας και της Ελληνικής μας Παλιγγενεσίας. Οι μαθητές, ιερείς, γονείς και φίλοι απέδωσαν φόρο τιμής στους αθάνατους ήρωες του 1821, οι οποίοι χάρισαν τη λευτεριά στην Ελλάδα μας και συγχρόνως με ευλάβεια και τιμή γιόρτασαν τον Ευαγγελισμό της Θεοτόκου μας. Όλα τα παιδιά του Ελληνικού Σχολείου δούλεψαν σκληρά και παρουσίασαν ένα υπέροχο πρόγραμμα, το οποίον καταχειροκροτήθηκε.

Το πρόγραμμα περιλάμβανε μια ιστορική διαδρομή στα ηρωικά γεγονότα του έπους του 1821 μέσα από πατριωτικά σκετς, απαγγελίες ποιημάτων, τραγούδια και παραδοσιακούς χορούς. Η αίθουσα διακοσμήθηκε με τα Ιστορικά Έργα του 1821 από όλες τις βαθμίδες για να τα θαυμάσουν όλοι. Οι μαθητές μας εργάστηκαν σκληρά σε αυτό το έργο και είμαστε πολύ περήφανοι για την επίδειξη δημιουργικότητας, έρευνας και δεξιοτήτων γραφής.



Η θαυμάσια αυτή εκδήλωση ξεκίνησε με τους εθνικούς ύμνους της Αμερικής και Ελλάδας στη μεγάλη αίθουσα εκδηλώσεων της κοινότητας με κατάθεση στεφάνου, τον Ακάθιστο Ύμνο, προσευχή, χαιρετισμούς και ολιγόλεπτες ομιλίες από τον προϊστάμενο το Καθεδρικού Ναού π. Ιωνάθαν Ρεσμίνη, τον πρόεδρο του Εκκλησιαστικού Συμβουλίου κ. Γιάννη Μαχαιρά και η διευθύντρια Ολυμπία Κουτσοκάλη και την πρόεδρο του Συλλόγου Γονέων και Διδασκάλων κ. Σοφία Τσοκάνη. Το νόστιμο γεύμα ετοιμάστηκε ευγενικά από τον κ. Φώτιος Καλτσούνης. Ένα ειλικρινές «ευχαριστώ» σε όλους τους εθελοντές που βοήθησαν στην επιτυχία αυτής της εκδήλωσης προσφέροντας ένα νόστιμο γεύμα, χρήματα και οι οποίοι προσφέρθηκαν εθελοντικά. Ζήτω η Ελλάς!

MAY 1ST 2023

Μαθητές, εκπαιδευτικοί και γονείς γιορτάζουν στο Ελληνικό μας Πάρκο την Πρωτομαγιά 2023

Οι μαθητές αψήφησαν την κακοκαιρία, που μετά από λίγες ώρες ευλογηθήκαμε με έναν ηλιόλουστο ουρανό και έναν δεύτερο άνεμο ενέργειας και διασκέδασης. Μεγάλη επιτυχία είχαν οι αγώνες δρόμου, σκυταλοδρομίας, αυγοδρομίας, και άλλων παιχνιδιών που οργάνωσαν η διεύθυνση και οι εκπαιδευτικοί του Ελληνικού μας Σχολείου. Χίλια ευχαριστώ στις ακούραστες κυρίες του Συλλόγου που πρόσφεραν τα φαγητά, και τα λουλούδια για τα παραδοσιακά στεφάνια.





GRADUATION 2023

Συγχαρητήρια στους αποφοίτους 2023!

Οι απόφοιτοι του Ελληνικού Σχολείου Αγίας Τριάδας της Σάρλοτ.

Ιωάννης Σταθόπουλος, Ευνίκη Τσοκάνης, Αντωνία Μαρία Λατσι, Δήμητρα Παυλόπουλος,

Ελένη Τσουρλή, Μάγδα Βροχίδη, Αθανάσιος Σταθόπουλος,

Περικλής Μυλωνάς, Παρασκευή Λιάγκας, Αναστασία Μπάρτης, Ευγενία Παπαγεωργίου

Όλοι οι φετινοί απόφοιτοι έφυγαν από το σχολείο με πολλές και αξέχαστες αναμνήσεις, υπερηφάνεια αλλά και τιμητικές διακρίσεις, επαίνους και χρηματικά βραβεία από την ΑΧΕΠΑ, την κοινότητα, το Σύλλογο Γονέων και Δασκάλων και από θερμούς υποστηρικτές του σχολείου για άριστη σχολική επίδοση, για αξιόλογες πτυχιακές εργασίες και εξαίρετες παρουσίες. Βραβεύτηκαν επίσης για τις εξαιρετικές τους εργασίες που υπέβαλαν στη διεύθυνση του σχολείου ως προϋπόθεση αποφοίτησής τους με θέμα «Η Γενέτειρα των Προγόνων μου». Το πρόγραμμα γιορτής συνέχισε με αποχαιρετιστήρια μηνύματα, τραγούδια και χοροί από τους μαθητές όλων των τάξεων.

Graduating Class of 2023

Μάγδα Βροχίδη- First Place Academic Award Ελένη Τσουρλή- Second Place Academic Award Αναστασία Μπάρτης- Third Place Academic Award Περικλής Μυλωνάς- First Place Project Award Αντωνία Μαρία Λατσι Παρασκευή Λιάγκας Ευγενία Παπαγεωργίου Δήμητρα Παυλόπουλος Αθανάσιος Σταθόπουλος Ιωάννης Σταθόπουλος Ευνίκη Τσοκάνης



Ένα ιδιαίτερο ευχαριστώ στους παρακάτω δωρητές:

- -AHEPA
- -Cannon Pharmacy
- -European Tile and Stone
- -Roula Skenteris-donation in Memory of Mr. Peroulas
- -Nick & Co Heating & Air.
- -Carolina Cleaning Services

Οι Μαθητές, η Διεύθυνση, οι Δασκάλες και ο Σύλλογος Γονέων και Διδασκάλων του Ελληνικού Σχολείου Αγίας Τριάδος απευθύνουμε θερμότατες ευχαριστίες στην Κατερίνα Ξυραφάκη και Φράνσις Ζόγκζα για την ανιδιοτελή προσφορά των υπηρεσιών τους στην εκπλήρωση της αποστολής του Ελληνικού Σχολείου. Επίσης στην Λαμπρινή Ελεφάντη και Δήμητρα Φουρνιώτη για τον πολύτιμο χρόνο που διέθεσαν, το ταλέντο και τη δημιουργική τους συμβολή στο σχεδιασμό και παραγωγή του αναμνηστικού σχολικού βιβλίου 2022-2023.

Ευχαριστούμε και πάλι στα όργανα διοίκησης του Συλλόγου Γονέων και Κηδεμόνων:

President: Sophia Tsokanis

Vice-President: Stephanie Kaltsounis Secretary: Isabelle Landry Vrochides

Treasurer: Nitsa Liagas

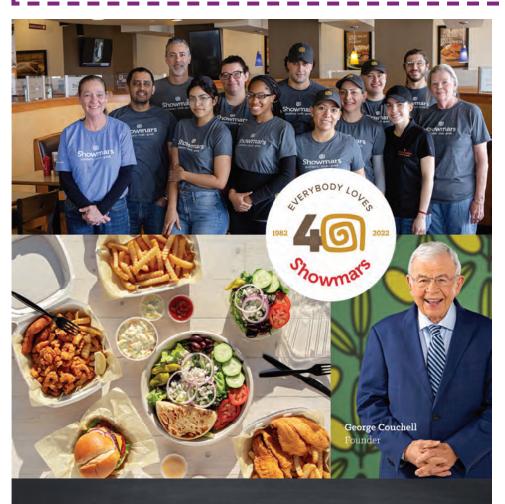
GET SOCIAL WITH HOLY TRINITY

https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityGreekOrthodoxCathedralCharlotte





YouTube Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral





Built on family roots, Showmars' founder George Couchell combined the Greek flavors of his childhood with his love of the Carolinas 40 years ago in 1982. A pioneer of the fast-casual concept, Showmars has something for every guest who walks through its doors, from its wildcaught World Famous Fish Sandwich to its original Pita Burgers™, traditional Gyros, and fresh Greek Salads. Southern, Fresh, Greek, that's Showmars' signature and promise.

f 🖸 🔰 showmars.com



GYROS • SALADS • BURGERS • SUBS



NAMED "TOP 20 LUNCH SPOTS" VOTED "BEST GREEK" e elevate **∧XIOS** yelp %

CONTACT US TO CATER YOUR NEXT EVENT! 901 E 4TH ST | SUITE A | UPTOWN CHARLOTTE

(704) 595-3749







704-641-9996

Dimitra (Tula) Kourakos

12104 Copper Way Suite 100 | Charlotte, NC 28277

Website: www.homes4Charlotte.com Email: dkourakos1@gmail.com

Facebook: SellingCharlotteHomes-Dimitra Tula Kourakos





Pete Pappas

"We Don't See Problems, We See Solutions"

Family Owned and Operated Since 1999 and Serving the Carolinas & Virginia

QualityHomelnspections-NC.com

252-722-2361 | 757-810-2064

(🗷) QualityInspections.Pete@gmail.com



Your Dreams Are Our Business

HomeTrust Bank has always been about relationships. Let us help you prepare for what's next.

- COMMERCIAL
- PERSONAL
- MORTGAGE
- WEALTH **MANAGEMENT**

Kosta Koutsokalis

Associate Branch Manager 6310 Fairview Rd, Charlotte, NC 28210 704,972,725

Member FDIC | ← Equal Housing Lender 230828-1136243856

