



Ιερος Ναος Αγιου Δημητρίου SAINT DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH + UPPER DARBY, PA



METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

Rev. GREGORY GILBERT · PRESIDING PRIEST
FRGRIGORIS@GMAIL.COM

229 Powell Lane · Upper Darby, PA 19082
Telephone: 610.352.7212

27 MAÏO · MAY 2018

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ · PENTECOST SUNDAY
ΕΛΛΑΔΙΟΥ ΙΕΡΟΜΑΡΤΥΡΟΣ · HIEROMARTYR HELLADIOS

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ · SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MEMORIAL DAY

Δευτέρα, 28 Μαΐου ΤΡΙΣΑΓΙΑ στὸ Νεκροταφεῖο «Fernwood» 9.00 π.μ.-12.00 μ.μ.
Monday, 28 May TRISAGIA at Fernwood Cemetery 9.00 a.m.-12.00 p.m.

ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΝΤΩΝ · ALL SAINTS

Κυριακή, 3 Ιουνίου Ὁρθρος 8.45 π.μ. · Θεία Λειτουργία 10.00 π.μ.
Sunday, 3 June Orthros 8.45 a.m. · Divine Liturgy 10.00 a.m.

Μετὰ τὴν Θεία Λειτουργία τὴν ἄλλη Κυριακὴ θὰ τιμήσουμε τοὺς τελειοφοίτους τῆς ἐνορίας μας. • At the conclusion of next Sunday's Divine Liturgy, we will recognize this year's graduates.

AHEPA CHAPTER 445 “THERMOPYLAE” SCHOLARSHIPS

AHEPA Chapter 445 is accepting applications for its 2018 Scholarships. For information, visit AHEPA-445.org, or contact Scholarship Chairman Basil Karayannis (gasmanbill@aol.com). Application Deadline May 31.

FAITH ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism offers scholarships for graduating High School Seniors. Information and application materials found at thefaithendowment.org/scholarships. Application Deadline June 15.

THE ANTIHONS OF PENTECOST

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Α'. ΗΧΟΣ Β'

Στίχ. α'. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν
Θεοῦ, ποίησιν δὲ χειρῶν αὐτοῦ
ἀναγγέλλει τὸ στερέωμα.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου,
Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. β'. Οὐκ εἰσὶ λαλιαὶ οὐδὲ λόγοι, ὡν
οὐχὶ ἀκούονται αἱ φωναὶ αὐτῶν.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

Στίχ. γ'. Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ
φθόγγος αὐτῶν καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς
οἰκουμένης τὰ ρήματα αὐτῶν.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

Δόξα Πατρὶ... Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ...

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου...

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Β'. ΗΧΟΣ Β'

Στίχ. α'. Ἐπακούσαι σου Κύριος ἐν
ἡμέρᾳ θλίψεως, ὑπερασπίσαι σου τὸ
ὄνομα τοῦ Θεοῦ Ἰακώβ.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς, Παράκλητε ἀγαθέ,
Ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. β'. Ἐξαποστεῖλαι σοι βοήθειαν ἐξ
ἀγίου καὶ ἐκ Σιών ἀντιλάβοιτό σου.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς, Παράκλητε ἀγαθέ...

Στίχ. γ'. Μνησθείη πάσης θυσίας σου
καὶ τὸ ὄλοκαύτωμά σου πιανάτω.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς, Παράκλητε ἀγαθέ...

Δόξα Πατρὶ... Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ...

‘Ο Μονογενὴς Γιὸς καὶ Λόγος τοῦ
Θεοῦ...

Antiphon I. Mode 2.

Vs. 1: *The heavens declare the glory of God; the firmament shows the creation of His hands.*

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Vs. 2: *There is no speech nor language where their voices are not heard.*

Through the intercessions...

Vs. 3: *Their proclamation went forth into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.*

Through the intercessions...

Glory to the Father... Both now...

Through the intercessions...

Antiphon II. Mode 2

Vs. 1: *May the Lord hear you in the day of afflictions; may the name of the God of Jacob defend you.*

Save us, O good Comforter, as we sing to You, Alleluia.

Vs. 2: *May He send you help from His holy place, may He support you from Zion.*

Save us, O good Comforter...

Vs. 3: *May He remember every sacrifice of yours, and may your whole burnt offering be honored.*

Save us, O good Comforter...

Glory to the Father... Both now...

Only begotten Son and Word of God...

ΑΝΤΙΦΩΝΟΝ Γ'. ΉΧΟΣ Δ'

Στίχ. α'. Κύριε, ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου
εὐφρανθήσεται ὁ βασιλεὺς καὶ ἐπὶ τῷ
σωτηρίῳ σου ἀγαλλιάσεται σφόδρα.
Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν,
ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας,
καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ
ἄγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην
σαγηνεύσας, φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Στίχ. β'. Τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν τῆς καρδίας αὐτοῦ
ἔδωκας αὐτῷ καὶ τὴν θέλησιν τῶν
χειλέων αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἐστέρησας αὐτόν.
Ὅτι προέφθασας αὐτὸν ἐν εὐλογίαις
χρηστότητος, ἔθηκας ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν
αὐτοῦ στέφανον ἐκ λίθου τιμίου.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν...

Στίχ. γ'. Ζωὴν ἡτήσατό σε, καὶ ἔδωκας
αὐτῷ, μακρότητα ἡμερῶν εἰς αἰῶνα
αἰῶνος.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν...

KONTAKION ΤΗΣ ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗΣ. ΠΛΑΓΙΟΣ Δ'
“Οτε καταβὰς τὰς γλώσσας συνέχεε,
διεμέριζεν ἔθνη ὁ “Υψιστος· ὅτε τοῦ
πυρὸς τὰς γλώσσας διένειμεν, εἰς
ἐνότητα πάντας ἐκάλεσε, καὶ
συμφώνως δοξάζομεν τὸ πανάγιον
Πνεῦμα.

READING FROM THE APOSTLE: ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2.1-11

Προκείμενον· Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν,
καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης τὰ ρήματα αὐτῶν.

Στίχος· Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ,
ποίησιν δὲ χειρῶν αὐτοῦ ἀναγγέλλει τὸ στερέωμα.

Ἐν τῷ συμπληροῦσθαι τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς πεντηκοστῆς ἦσαν ἄπαντες οἱ
ἀπόστολοι ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπὶ τὸ αὐτό. Καὶ ἐγένετο ἄφνω ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ Ἡχος
ῶσπερ φερομένης πνοῆς βιαίας, καὶ ἐπλήρωσεν ὅλον τὸν οἶκον οὗ ἦσαν
καθήμενοι· καὶ ὥφθησαν αὐτοῖς διαμεριζόμεναι γλῶσσαι ὡσεὶ πυρός, ἐκάθισέ

ANTIPHON III. PLAGAL IV

Vs. 1: O Lord, the king shall be glad in
Your power, and in Your salvation he
will greatly rejoice.

Blessed are You, O Christ our God.
You made the fishermen all-wise, by
sending down upon them the Holy
Spirit, and through them You drew
the world into Your net. O Lover of
mankind, glory to You.

Vs. 2: You gave him his soul's desire, and
You did not deprive him of his lips'
request. For You anticipated him with
blessings of goodness; You placed a
crown of precious stones on his head.

Blessed are You, O Christ our God...

Vs. 3: He asked You for life, and You gave
it to him, length of days unto ages of
ages.

Blessed are You, O Christ our God

KONTAKION OF PENTECOST; PLAGAL IV

When the Most High God came down
and confused the tongues, He
divided the nations. When He
distributed the tongues of fire, He
called all to unity. And with one
voice we glorify the all-holy Spirit.

τε ἐφ' ἔνα ἔκαστον αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπλήσθησαν ἄπαντες Πνεύματος Ἅγιου, καὶ ἥρξαντο λαλεῖν ἑτέραις γλώσσαις καθὼς τὸ Πνεῦμα ἐδίδου αὐτοῖς ἀποφθέγγεσθαι. Ὡσαν δὲ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατοικοῦντες Ἰουδαῖοι, ἄνδρες εὐλαβεῖς ἀπὸ παντὸς ἔθνους τῶν ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανόν· γενομένης δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ταύτης συνῆλθε τὸ πλῆθος καὶ συνεχύθη, ὅτι ἥκουν εἰς ἔκαστος τῇ ἴδιᾳ διαλέκτῳ λαλούντων αὐτῶν. Ἐξίσταντο δὲ πάντες καὶ ἐθαύμαζον λέγοντες πρὸς ἄλλήλους· Οὐκ ἴδοὺ πάντες οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ λαλοῦντες Γαλιλαῖοι; Καὶ πῶς ἡμεῖς ἀκούομεν ἔκαστος τῇ ἴδιᾳ διαλέκτῳ ἡμῶν ἐν ᾧ ἐγεννήθημεν, Πάρθοι καὶ Μῆδοι καὶ Ἐλαμῖται, καὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν Μεσοποταμίαν, Ἰουδαίαν τε καὶ Καππαδοκίαν, Πόντον καὶ τὴν Ἀσίαν, Φρυγίαν τε καὶ Παμφυλίαν, Αἴγυπτον καὶ τὰ μέρη τῆς Λιβύης τῆς κατὰ Κυρήνην, καὶ οἱ ἐπιδημοῦντες Ῥωμαῖοι, Ἰουδαῖοί τε καὶ προσήλυτοι, Κρήτες καὶ Ἀραβεῖς, ἀκούομεν λαλούντων αὐτῶν ταῖς ἡμετέραις γλώσσαις τὰ μεγαλεῖα τοῦ Θεοῦ;

*Prokeimenon: Their proclamation went forth into all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.*

*Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God;
the firmament shows the creation of His hands.*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontos and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

READING FROM THE GOSPEL: JOHN 17.1-13

Τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔκραξε λέγων· Ἐάν τις διψᾷ, ἐρχέσθω πρός με καὶ πινέτω. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, καθὼς εἶπεν ἡ γραφή, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ῥεύσουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος. τοῦτο δὲ εἶπε περὶ τοῦ Πνεύματος οὗ ἔμελλον λαμβάνειν οἱ πιστεύσαντες εἰς αὐτόν· οὕπω

γὰρ ἦν Πνεῦμα Ἄγιον, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐδέπω ἐδοξάσθη. πολλοὶ οὖν ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου ἀκούσαντες τὸν λόγον ἔλεγον· Οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης· ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός· οἱ δὲ ἔλεγον· Μὴ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται; οὐχὶ ἡ γραφὴ εἶπεν ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Δαυΐδ καὶ ἀπὸ Βηθλέεμ τῆς κώμης, ὅπου ἦν Δαυΐδ, ὁ Χριστὸς ἔρχεται; σχίσμα οὖν ἐν τῷ ὄχλῳ ἐγένετο δι' αὐτὸν. τινὲς δὲ ἥθελον ἔξ αὐτῶν πιάσαι αὐτόν, ἀλλ' οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὰς χεῖρας. Ἡλθον οὖν οἱ ὑπηρέται πρὸς τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους, καὶ εἶπον αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖνοι· Διατί οὐκ ἡγάγετε αὐτόν; ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ ὑπηρέται· Οὐδέποτε οὕτως ἐλάλησεν ἄνθρωπος, ὡς οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος. ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν αὐτοῖς οἱ Φαρισαῖοι· Μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς πεπλάνησθε; μή τις ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτὸν ἢ ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων; ἀλλ' ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὁ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπικατάρατοί εἰσι! λέγει Νικόδημος πρὸς αὐτούς, ὁ ἐλθὼν νυκτὸς πρὸς αὐτὸν, εἶς ὁν ἔξ αὐτῶν· Μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἐὰν μὴ ἀκούσῃ παρ' αὐτοῦ πρότερον καὶ γνῷ τί ποιεῖ; ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· Μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; ἐρεύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι προφήτης ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας οὐκ ἐγήγερται. Πάλιν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐλάλησε λέγων· Ἐγώ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου· ὁ ἀκολουθῶν ἐμοὶ οὐ μὴ περιπατήσῃ ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ, ἀλλ' ἔξει τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς.

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priest and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed.” Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.” Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”



ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Πρός τόν εύλαβέστατον Ιερόν Κλῆρον,
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ ἡμῶν Πατριαρχείου,
Τούς Προέδρους καὶ τά Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,
Τάς Προέδρους καὶ τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,
Τούς διδάσκοντας καὶ διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καὶ Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων,
Τάς Ὁργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καὶ ἀπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν
Ορθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ιερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης.

...καὶ Πνεῦμα ἄγιον ἦν ἐν τῷ Πατρί, σύν Υἱῷ δοξαζόμενον

(Δοξαστικόν Μεγάλου Εσπερινοῦ Πεντηκοστῆς)

Ἄγαπητοί ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοί.

Ἡ Πεντηκοστή ἡμέρα ἀπό τό Πάσχα, σηματοδοτεῖ τή φανέρωση καὶ τή δωρεά τοῦ Ἅγιου Πνεύματός στόν κόσμο καὶ χαρακτηρίζεται ὡς ἡ γενέθλιος ἡμέρα τῆς Ἐκκλησίας, γι' αὐτό καὶ ἔορτάζεται με ἰδιαίτερη λαμπρότητα. Ἡ κάθιδος τοῦ Ἅγιου Πνεύματος «ἐν εἴδει πυρίνων γλωσσῶν» ἐπί τάς κεφαλάς τῶν Ἀποστόλων ὁλοκληρώνει τό πρό αἰώνων σχέδιο τῆς Θείας Οἰκονομίας. Κατά τήν ἡμέρα αὐτή, ἐκπληρώνεται ἡ ὑπόσχεση τοῦ Κυρίου ὅτι θά στείλει «ἄλλον Παράκλητον... τό Πνεῦμα τῆς ἀληθείας», γιά νά κατευθύνει καὶ νά συγκροτεῖ με τήν ἐνοποιητική του δύναμη ὀλόκληρο τό σῶμα τῆς Ἐκκλησίας. Τό ὑψιστο αὐτό γεγονός, τῆς ἐπιφοιτήσεως τοῦ Ἅγιου Πνεύματος, χάρισε στούς Αποστόλους τήν πνευματική τους ἀναγέννηση καὶ τή δυνατότητα νά κηρύξουν σέ ὅλη τήν οἰκουμένη τό χαρμόσυνο μήνυμα τῆς Ἀναστάσεως τοῦ Κυρίου, ἐξαγγέλλοντες τή γνώση τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ τά μυστήρια τῆς Βασιλείας Του.

Τό Ἅγιο Πνεῦμα, τό ὅποιο «ἐπεδήμησεν ἐν κόσμῳ», δέν εἶναι μία ἀφηρημένη ἔννοια, ἀλλά «ἡν ἐν τῷ Πατρί, σύν Υἱῷ δοξαζόμενον», ὡς τό τρίτο πρόσωπο τῆς Ἅγιας Ὁμοούσιου καὶ Ἄδιαιρέτου Τριάδος. Ἡ θεόπνευστη πένα τῶν ὑμνογράφων, μέσα ἀπό τήν ὑμνολογία τῆς ἡμέρας, μᾶς ἀποκαλύπτει τόν πλοῦτο τῶν θεολογικῶν στοχασμῶν τους γιά τό Ἅγιο Πνεῦμα, το ὅποιο χαρακτηρίζεται ὡς «ὁ θησαυρός τῶν ἀγαθῶν καὶ ζωῆς χορηγός», «αὐτάγαθον καὶ πηγή ἀγαθότητος», «ζωή καὶ ζωοποιῶν», τονίζοντας τη ζωοποιό καὶ ἀγαθοποιό ἐνέργεια τοῦ Ἅγιου Πνεύματος. Τό Ἅγιο Πνεῦμα, λοιπόν, προφυλάσσει τόν ἄνθρωπο ἀπό τίς παγίδες τοῦ διαβόλου καὶ τόν καθοδηγεῖ στήν πορεία του πρός τή βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἐπιφέρει τήν ἐνότητα στήν Ἐκκλησία καὶ ἐνεργεῖ μέσω τῶν Μυστηρίων.

Χάρη στήν ἀόρατη ἐπενέργεια τοῦ Ἀγίου Πνεύματος, ὅλα τά Μυστήρια τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας μας θεωροῦνται σωστικά, διότι σώζουν ψυχικά καί σωματικά τόν ἄνθρωπο. Ὄταν δέ ὁ ἄνθρωπος δέχεται ἀξίως τή χάρη τῶν Μυστηρίων, λαμβάνει καί τούς καρπούς τοῦ Ἀγίου Πνεύματος, οἱ ὅποιοι κατά τόν Ἀπόστολο Παῦλο εἰναι: «ἀγάπη, χαρά, εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία, χρηστότης, ἀγαθοσύνη, πίστις, πραότης, ἐγκράτεια» (Γαλ. 5, 22). Αὐτή ἡ σφραγίδα τοῦ Ἀγίου Πνεύματος, οἱ καρποί δηλαδή πού χαρίζει σέ ὅσους ἐλεύθερα τό δέχονται, «γαληνόμορφον ἐκτελεῖ τήν καρδίαν». Δηλαδή, σύμφωνα μέ τόν στίχο τοῦ Κανόνα τῆς ἔορτῆς, ἐνεργεῖ στόν ἄνθρωπο προσφέροντάς του γαλήνη καί ἡρεμία, τόν ἐξωραΐζει, τόν ἀγιάζει καί τόν καθιστᾶ ναό ἄγιο τῆς Θείας Χάριτος. Ὅπου, λοιπόν, κυριαρχεῖ τό Ἅγιο Πνεῦμα, ἐκεῖ βρίσκεται καί ἡ πραγματική ἐν Χριστῷ ἐλευθερία καί ὁ ἄνθρωπος, χωρίς νά χάσει τά ἴδιατερα προσωπικά του γνωρίσματα, γίνεται, σύμφωνα μέ τόν Μέγα Βασίλειο, ἀληθινά πνευματοφόρος, πνευματοκίνητος καί θεοφόρος, καθώς βιώνει τήν προσωπική του Πεντηκοστή.

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί,

Ἡ μεγάλη Δεσποτική ἔορτή τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς μᾶς καλεῖ νά ἔρθουμε κοντά στόν Θεό καί νά γίνουμε δοχεῖα τῆς ζωοποιοῦ καί ἀγιαστικῆς δύναμης του Ἀγίου Πνεύματος. Ἄς παρακαλέσουμε εἰδικά σήμερα τόν «ἀγαθό Παράκλητο» νά δεχθεῖ «τάς γονυπετεῖς ἡμῶν δεήσεις» καί νά καταυγάσει τίς καρδιές μας μέ Θεϊ φῶς.

Ως Ἐπίσκοπος καί πνευματικός σας πατέρας, εὔχομαι καί προσεύχομαι, ἡ χάρις τοῦ Ἀγίου Πνεύματος νά μᾶς φωτίζει καί νά μᾶς καθοδηγεῖ μέσα στήν πολυφωνία καί τή σύγχυση πού ἐπικρατεῖ στόν κόσμο μας. Νά μᾶς ἐπισκιάζει καί νά δείχνει πάντοτε τήν ἀλήθεια, προφυλάσσοντάς μας ἀπό τίς πλάνες καί ἀπό τίς παγίδες τοῦ ἐχθροῦ. Νά φωτίζει τήν ὑπαρξή μας, νά ἀγιάζει τή ζωή μας καί να προσφέρει σέ ὅλους μας τή βεβαιότητα τῆς Αναστάσεως καί τής σωτηρίας. Ἀμήν.

Μετά πατρικῶν εὐχῶν καί τῆς ἐν Κυρίῳ ἀγάπης

Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ

† Ο Νέας Ιερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Πρός τόν εύλαβέστατο Ιερό Κλῆρο,
Τούς Ἐντιμοτάτους Ἀρχοντας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου,
Τούς Προέδρους καὶ τά Μέλη τῶν Ἑκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,
Τάς Προέδρους καὶ τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,
Τούς διδάσκοντας καὶ διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καὶ Ελληνικῶν Σχολείων,
Τίς ὄργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καὶ ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν
Ὀρθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ιερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης.

Ἄγαπητοί ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοί,

Τό περασμένο Σάββατο, οἱ χαρούσυνες Ἐκδηλώσεις κατά τήν Αποφοίτηση τοῦ προσφιλοῦς μας Ἐλληνικοῦ Κολλεγίου καὶ τῆς Ιερᾶς Θεολογικῆς Σχολῆς τοῦ Τιμίου Σπαυροῦ Βοστώνης ἀμαρρώθηκαν ὅταν ἔνας ἐκ τῶν προσκεκλημένων ὁμιλητῶν, ὁ κ. Εὐστάθιος Βαλιώτης, πρός τόν ὅποιο ἀπονεμήθηκε τιμητικῶς «Διδακτορικό Δίπλωμα» ἀπό τήν Σχολή μας, ἔδραξε τῆς εὐκαιρίας νά σπείρῃ συκοφαντίες εἰς βάρος τῆς Μητρός Ἐκκλησίας, τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου Κωνσταντινούπολεως. Τοῦτο δέ συνέβη κατά τήν διάρκεια τῆς προσφωνήσεώς του σέ ἔνδειξη «εὐγνωμοσύνης» διά τήν ύψιστη τιμή τήν ὅποια ἔλαβε ἀπό τό Ιερό Καθίδρυμα τῆς Ιερᾶς μας Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς, καὶ κατά συνέπεια ἀπό τό Οἰκουμενικό μας Πατριαρχείο. Σέ αὐτόν τό ἴερό τόπο, ὅπου στεγάζεται τό μοναδικό Ἐλληνορθόδοξο Ἐκπαιδευτικό Ίδρυμα στό Δυτικό Ήμισφαίριο, ὅπου γιά περισσότερες ἀπό ὀκτώ δεκαετίες γαλουχήθησαν οἱ εύλαβέστατοι Κληρικοί τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ἐν Ἀμερικῇ καὶ ἐν γένει, μεταδόθηκε καὶ διατρανώθηκε ἡ ἰδέα τοῦ σεβασμοῦ καὶ τῆς ἀφοσιώσεως πρός τό Οἰκουμενικό μας Πατριαρχείο, καὶ οἱ ἀδιάρρηκτοι δεσμοί τῆς Θυγατρός, Ιερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς μετ' Αὐτοῦ.

Προσωπικῶς, καὶ ὡς ὁ Μητροπολίτης τῆς Ιερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης, τῆς Ἐπαρχίας τοῦ Σεπτοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Θρόνου στήν Ιερά Ἀρχιεπισκοπή Ἀμερικῆς, ἀπορρίπτω καὶ καταγγέλω τίς θέσεις καὶ δηλώσεις τοῦ κ. Βαλιώτη, τοῦ ὅποίου τά συναισθήματα ἐναντίον τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου εἶναι γνωστά καὶ πολλάκις διατυπωμένα δημοσίως κατά τό παρελθόν. Ἐπιπλέον, καταγγέλω τήν σιωπή ἐκείνων πού ἦταν παρόντες κατά τήν Τελετή Αποφοιτήσεως καὶ ἐπέτρεψαν στόν κ. Βαλιώτη νά ἀπευθύνη τήν ἀποτρόπαια αὐτή δημιουργία, χωρίς νά ἀντιδράσουν ἢ νά τόν διακόψουν.

Ο ίερός Κλῆρος καί ό Λαός τῆς Ιερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ιερσέης ἐκφράζουμε τήν συμπαράσταση καί συνεχῆ ἀφοσίωσή μας πρός τήν Μητέρα Ἐκκλησίαν τῆς Κωνσταντινούπόλεως, τό Οἰκουμενικό Πατριαρχεῖο, καί πρός τόν Παναγιώτατο Οἰκουμενικό Πατριαρχη κ.κ. Βαρθολομαῖο, τόν Πνευματικό Ἡγέτη 300 καί πλέον ἑκατομμυρίων Ὁρθοδόξων ἀνά τήν οἰκουμένη. Η Μητέρα Ἐκκλησία ἀν καί βρίσκεται συνεχῶς πολιορκημένη, καί κατά τόν λόγο τοῦ Παναγιωτάτου Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριάρχου κ.κ. Βαρθολομαίου, ὑπάρχουσα ἐν «μαρτυρίᾳ», συνεχίζει νά προσφέρῃ «μαρτυρία» τῶν θείων καί ιερῶν Ἀληθειῶν τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου τοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ στά πέρατα τοῦ κόσμου. Ἐν ἀντιθέσει πρός τούς Ἀρειο, Νεστόριο καί ὄλους τούς αἱρεσιάρχες, πού πολέμησαν ἐναντίον τῶν διδασκαλιῶν καί τῶν παραδόσεων τῆς Ὁρθοδόξου Πίστεως ἐκ τῶν ἔσω, ἐμεῖς, οἱ πιστοί Ὁρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί τῆς Ιερᾶς ταύτης Μητροπόλεως, ζῶντες τήν στοργή τῆς μητρικῆς ἀγικαλιᾶς τῆς Μητρός Ἐκκλησίας τῆς Κωνσταντινούπόλεως, ὁφείλουμε νά παραμείνουμε ἐνωμένοι μετ' Αὐτῆς καί νά διατρανώσουμε -στεντορίᾳ τῇ φωνῇ- τήν ἀγάπη, τήν πίστη καί τήν στήριξή μας πρός τόν Οἰκουμενικό μας Πατριαρχεῖο, τό Σεπτό Κέντρο τῆς Οἰκουμενικῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας. Ιδιαιτέρως δέ, κατ' αὐτή τήν περίοδο τῶν πολλῶν ἔξελίξεων στήν Ιερά Αρχιεπισκοπή, ὁφείλουμε νά εἴμαστε εὐγνώμονες διά τήν καθοδήγηση καί ἐπίβλεψη τήν ὅποιαν μᾶς παρέχει τό Οἰκουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον.

Ως πνευματικό τέκνο τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου ἐκ γενετῆς, ώς Κληρικός ἐπί τριάκοντα καί πλέον ἔτη, καί ώς Μητροπολίτης σας ἐπί δεκαπέντα ἔτη, πράγματι ταράχθηκα ἀπό τίς ἀτυχεῖς δηλώσεις τοῦ κ. Βαλιώτη ὅτι τό Οἰκουμενικό Πατριαρχεῖο εἶναι Ἐκκλησία «χωρίς σκοπό ἢ ἀποστολή». «Ολας ἀντιθέτως, διά τῶν ἀδιακόπων μόχθων καί ἔργων τῶν μακαριστῶν Πνευματικῶν μας Ἡγετῶν καί τῆς ἀφοσιωμένης Ιεραρχίας τῆς Ἐκκλησίας τῆς Κωνσταντινούπόλεως ἀνά τοὺς αἰῶνας, ἰδιαίτατα δέ, κατά τήν ἐπί εἰκοσιεπταετία σεπτή Ποιμαντορία καί Ἡγεσία τοῦ Παναγιωτάτου Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριάρχου κ.κ. Βαρθολομαίου, τοῦ Πατριάρχου τοῦ Γένους, ἐδραιώθηκε ἡ Ὁρθοδοξία στήν Αμερική καί ἀλλαχοῦ ώς ἀληθινός σκοπός καί ἀποστολή τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου, τό ὅποιο δέν ὑπῆρξε ποτέ μία τοπική Ἐκκλησία περιορισμένη στήν Κωνσταντινούπολη, ἀλλά εἶχε πάντοτε στραμμένη τήν μέριμνά του πρός τήν ἐνότητα τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας παγκοσμίως.

Μία Ἐκκλησία χωρίς σκοπό δέν θά ἐπιχειροῦσε τήν Σύγκληση τῆς Μεγάλης καί Αγίας Συνόδου τό 2016. Μία Ἐκκλησία χωρίς σκοπό δέν θά διαπούμαινε τήν διαρκῶς αὐξανομένη Ὁρθοδοξία εἰς τίς πέντε Ἡπείρους καί σέ διαφορετικούς λαούς καί ἔθνη. Μία Ἐκκλησία χωρίς σκοπό δέν θά ἥταν δυνατό νά ἀναστήση τίς Ιερές Μητροπόλεις στήν Σμύρνη, Προύσα, Κυδωνίες, καί Σηλυβρία κατά τήν τελευταία δεκαετία, καί νά ἴδρυση νέες Μητροπόλεις στόν Καναδά, Μεξικό, Μπουένος Άϊρες, Ίσπανία καί Πορτογαλία, Χόνγκ Κόνγκ, Σινγκαπούρη καί Κορέα κατά τήν τελευταία εἰκοσαετία. Περαιτέρω, ἡ δήλωση τοῦ κ. Βαλιώτη ὅτι τό Οἰκουμενικό Πατριαρχεῖο εἶναι Ἐκκλησία «χωρίς ποίμνιο» εἶναι

παράλογος καί ψευδής, καθότι τό πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσέης, ὅπως καί ἐκατομμύρια Ὁρθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν στήν Ἀμερική καί ἀνά τὸν κόσμο, Ἑλληνες καί μή, νιώθουν, καί εἶναι το λογικό ποίμνιο τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου.

“Ολοι μας, ἐγώ ὡς ὁ Μητροπολίτης καί Πνευματικός σας Πατέρας, καί ὁ Ἱερός Κλήρος καί ὁ Λαός τῆς εὐλογημένης αὐτῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἐπαρχίας τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Θρόνου, παραμένουμε ἐνωμένοι ἐν Χριστῷ, καί ἀφοσιωμένοι στήν Ἅγια Αὔτοῦ Ἐκκλησίᾳ καί τήν Αποστολική παράδοση, ἡ ὁποία πηγάζει ἐκ τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ μας Πατριαρχείου. Ως Ὁρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί ἐν Ἀμερικῇ, ὀφείλουμε νά είμαστε εὐγνώμονες πρός τήν Μητέρα Ἐκκλησία καί νά τήν περιβάλλουμε μέ σεβασμό καί ἀφοσίωση, διότι Ἐκείνη πάντοτε μεριμνᾷ γιά τήν πνευματική μας καλλιέργεια καί κατά Θεόν αὔξηση καί θά τό πράττει καί στό μέλλον. Άς μήν συμμεριζόμαστε προσωπικές ἀπόψεις, ἀκόμη καί μητραλιῶν (μητροκτόνα) συναισθήματα ἀνθρώπων χωρίς ἔρεισμα καί λογική, ἀλλά ὡς ἀγαπῶντα τέκνα νά στηρίζουμε τήν Μητέρα μας, ἡ ὁποία συνεχίζει νά ἀγκαλιάζει τούς πάντες, μέ πνεῦμα ἐνότητος καί πίστεως, φωτίζοντας τίς ψυχές καί τήν ζωήν ὅλων διά τοῦ ἴεροῦ φωτός, τό ὁποῖο πάντοτε θά πηγάζῃ ἐκ τοῦ φεγγοβόλου Φαναρίου τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως.

Καθὼς ἐγγίζουμε τήν μεγάλη ἑορτή τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, ὅταν τά ἔθνη ἐνώθηκαν διά τῆς καταπέμψεως τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, ἀς είμαστε ὑπερήφανοι καί ἀς διατηρήσουμε τήν ἀφοσίωσή μας πρός τό Οἰκουμενικό μας Πατριαρχεῖο, τό ὁποῖο ἀποτελεῖ τήν οἰκουμενική καί ἀληθινή Μητέρα, ἡ ὁποία ἐνώνει κάτω ἀπό τίς πτέρυγές της ὅλους, μέ μόναδικό σκοπό τήν διακονία τοῦ Κυρίου καί Σωτῆρος μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Εὐχόμενος ὅπως τό Πανάγιο Πνεῦμα συνεχίζει νά κατοικεῖ μέσα μας ὡς πιστά μέλη τῆς Ἀγίας τοῦ Χριστοῦ Μεγάλης Ἐκκλησίας, τῆς Μητέρας μας Ἐκκλησίας τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως, διατελῶ

Μετά πατρικῆς ἀγάπης καί εὐχῶν,

Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ

† Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ

† Ο Νέας Ἱερσέης ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

May 23, 2018

To the Reverend Clergy, Esteemed Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Members of the Metropolis and Parish Councils, the Philoptochos Sisterhoods and the devoted Greek Orthodox Faithful of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

This past Saturday, the joyous 2018 Commencement Exercise and celebrations of our beloved Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology were marred when one of the invited speakers, Mr. Efstathios Valiotis, the recipient of an "Honorary Doctorate," from our School, took the opportunity to slander our Mother Church, the Holy Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. And this, while he was expressing his "gratitude" for the high honor bestowed upon him by one of the flagship institutions of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and, by extension, of the Ecumenical Patriarchate itself. It is here, at this sacred venue, this Greek Orthodox Institution of Higher Learning and the only Greek Orthodox College and School of Theology in the Western Hemisphere, which for almost eight decades has been educating and preparing the Reverend Clergy of the Church at large, that the honoree brazenly declared that our Archdiocese should immediately sever Her ties with the Patriarchate and declare autocephaly.

I, as the Metropolitan of this sacred Metropolis of New Jersey, an Eparchy of the Ecumenical Throne in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, reject and denounce the position and statements of Mr. Valiotis, who's sentiments against the Ecumenical Patriarchate are very well known, as he has vocalized them repeatedly and publicly over the past decades. In addition, I denounce the silence of those present at the graduation, as Mr. Valiotis was allowed to offer this most deplorable speech without interruption or objection.

We, the Clergy and Laity, of the Sacred Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey affirm our support and our continued devotion to the Mother Church of Constantinople, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the Spiritual Leader of over 300 million Orthodox Christians throughout the world. Our Mother Church is already beleaguered and, in the words of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, lives in a state of martyrdom, yet, it continues to unceasingly offer martyrria to the divine and sacred Truths of the Gospel of Christ to the four corners of the world. Unlike Arius, Nestorius and all Heretics, who fought against the teachings and traditions of our Orthodox Faith from within, we the faithful Orthodox Christians of this sacred Metropolis, who have received and

felt the motherly embrace and love of our Mother Church of Constantinople, must remain united and vocal in expressing our love, convictions and support for our Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Center of worldwide Orthodoxy. In light of recent developments in the Archdiocese, we should be thankful that we are led and overseen by, and are accountable to, the Ecumenical Throne of Constantinople.

As a spiritual son of the Ecumenical Patriarchate since birth, as a clergyman for more than thirty years and as your Metropolitan for the past fifteen, I was most disconcerted by Mr. Valiotis' statement that the Ecumenical Patriarchate is a Church "without purpose or mission." To the contrary, the unceasing labors of our Spiritual Leaders and Patriarchs and the devoted Hierarchy of the Church of Constantinople throughout the centuries, especially during these past 27 years under the Leadership of His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, to establish Orthodoxy here in America and everywhere are the very enactment of the mission of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, which has never been simply a local Church in Constantinople, but is rather the focus of Orthodox unity around the globe.

A Church without purpose would not endeavor to convene the Great and Holy Council of 2016. A Church without mission would not be shepherding the growth of Orthodoxy on five continents and among many nations. A Church without a mission or purpose would not resurrect the holy Metropolises of Smyrna, Prousa, Kydonion, and Selyvria over the past decade, and establish the new Metropolises of Canada, Mexico, Buenos Aires, Spain and Portugal, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Korea over the past twenty years. Furthermore, Mr. Valiotis' statement that the Ecumenical Patriarchate is a Church "without a flock" is preposterous and false; as the faithful of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, as well as millions of Orthodox Christians in the United States of America and throughout the world, both Greek and non-Greek, consider themselves the sheep of that Ecumenical flock.

As your Metropolitan and Spiritual Father, I pray that we all remain united in Christ, as one, in our faithfulness and devotion to Christ's Holy Church and to our Apostolic inheritance which stems from the Ecumenical Patriarchate. We as Orthodox Christians living in America must regard our Mother Church with gratitude for She has guided our growth and prosperity thus far, and will continue to do so in the future. We must not follow one's matricidal feelings or sentiments, but rather as loving children, we must support our Mother, who continues to embrace all of us, keeping us united in the Faith, shining forth the light which illuminates our heart and our lives, the light which radiates from the ever-glowing and radiant Phanar in Constantinople.

As we approach the great feast of Pentecost, when the nations of the world were united through the descent of the Holy Spirit, we must be proud and maintain our allegiance to the Ecumenical Patriarchate for it is truly exactly that, Ecumenical and a loving mother which unites us in Orthodox service to our One Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Praying that the All-Holy Spirit continue to be and dwell in and through us as faithful members of the Great and Holy Church of Christ and the Mother Church of Constantinople.

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

Metropolitan Evangelos

† E V A N G E L O S
Metropolitan of New Jersey



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

Pentecost 2018

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Esteemed Members of the Metropolitan Council, Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils, Philoptochos Sisterhood, Faculty and Students of the Catechetical and Greek Afternoon Schools, Directors and Participants of all Youth Organizations, and all devout Orthodox Christians of the Greek Orthodox Communities of our Holy Metropolis of New Jersey

"When the Most High God came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations. When He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. And with one voice we glorify the all-holy Spirit."

My Beloved,

Having recently celebrated the conclusion of the Paschal season, we find ourselves at the feast of Pentecost in which God manifests His love for us and for all people by sending down upon us the Holy Spirit. Today, we bear witness to the revelation of the Church in history through the continuation of Christ's ministry. We are thus given the commandment to "*Go forth, therefore, and to make disciples of all nations*" (Matt. 28:19) as an indication that the gift of salvation which has been extended to us is to be shared with all people.

Though we have received the command to "*Go forth*", our Lord does not intend for every person to literally leave their home in an effort to comply with this instruction, but it is clear that Christ has given each of us varying abilities so as to build up the Body of Christ for as we see in St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, "*Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way*" (1 Cor. 12:29-31). Thus, we must discern in which way God wants us to serve His Church so that through our love and desire to serve Him we may, in turn, "*Go forth*" with our hearts and make disciples.

Though seemingly a daunting task, God enables us to fulfill this commandment even by living in a Christ-like manner so that, through our actions, we may serve as an example to others not for our own glory, but for the glory of God. The society and nature of the times in which we live, however, do not seem to permit us the convenience of living a Christ-like life,

thus, we must always be vigilant and strive towards this spiritual excellence by strengthening our prayer life and our sacramental life.

Above all, it is imperative to recognize the power of the Holy Spirit within our lives and within the life of the Church. It was the Holy Spirit that enabled the disciples to go forth and begin their apostolic mission. It is the Holy Spirit that has guided the Fathers of the Church in ensuring the orthodoxy of our doctrine. It is the Holy Spirit that has directed the saints over the centuries to pour down upon us their knowledge through their actions, their writings, and their lives so that we may partake of their wisdom. It is the Holy Spirit which accompanies each of us in our baptism as we shed the old self and we put on Christ. It is the Holy Spirit that at every liturgy consecrates our offering of bread and wine so that it may become the Body and Blood of Christ.

It is with these thoughts, my beloved in the Lord, that I implore you to hold fast to this commandment and fulfill it by living a Christ-like life. Thus, we will be able to make disciples of all nations and the Holy Spirit will allow us to transcend the bounds of divided nations and instead transform us into a united community of faithful in Christ. Praying that the Holy Spirit guides you to the ineffable glory of our Lord, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Metropolitan" written above "Evangelos".

† E V A N G E L O S
Metropolitan of New Jersey



UPPER DARBY
GREEK FESTIVAL

thank
you!

To all our volunteers and
Donors for making this year's
Festival a very special one!

We couldn't have done it
without you!!