



ΙΕΡΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ  
**SAINT DEMETRIOS**  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH + UPPER DARBY, PA



METROPOLIS OF  
NEW JERSEY

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5 ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ · JANUARY 2020

ΠΡΟΕΟΡΤΙΑ ΤΩΝ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΩΝ · FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY

Μεγας Αγιασμος · Great Blessing of the Waters

Μετὰ τὴν Θεία Λειτουργία θὰ τελέσουμε τὴν ἀκολουθία τοῦ Μεγάλου Ἀγιασμοῦ γιὰ τὰ Προεόρτια τῶν Θεοφανείων. · After today's Divine Liturgy, we will celebrate the Great Blessing of the Waters for Theophany.

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ · SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

ΤΑ ΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΦΑΝΕΙΑ · HOLY THEOPHANY

Κυριακή, 5 Ἰανουαρίου Sunday, 5 January	6.00 μ.μ. 6.00 p.m.	ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ VESPERS
Δευτέρα, 6 Ἰανουαρίου Monday, 6 January	9.00, 10.00 π.μ. 11.00 π.μ. 9.00, 10.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	ΟΡΘΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΕΙΑ ΛΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS
Τρίτη, 7 Ἰανουαρίου Tuesday, 7 January	9.00, 10.00 π.μ. 9.00, 10.00 a.m.	ΟΡΘΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΕΙΑ ΛΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY

## AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE GOSPEL WE SING

ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΜΟΝ, ΗΧΟΣ Δ΄

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως  
κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι  
αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριάι, καὶ τὴν  
προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι,  
τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον·  
Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη  
Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ  
κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

ΠΡΟΕΟΡΤΙΟΝ, ΗΧΟΣ Δ΄

Ἀπεστρέφετό ποτε, ὁ Ἰορδάνης  
ποταμός, τῇ μηλωτῇ Ἐλισαίῃ,  
ἀναληφθέντος Ἡλίου, καὶ διηρεῖτο  
τὰ ὕδατα ἔνθεν καὶ ἔνθεν, καὶ  
γέγονεν αὐτῷ, ξηρὰ ὁδὸς ἢ ὑγρὰ, εἰς  
τύπον ἀληθῶς τοῦ Βαπτίσματος, δι'  
οὗ ἡμεῖς τὴν ρέουσαν, τοῦ βίου  
διαπερῶμεν διάβασιν, Χριστὸς  
ἐφάνη, ἐν Ἰορδάνῃ, ἀγιάσαι τὰ  
ὑδατα.

ΤΟΥ ΝΑΟΥ, ΗΧΟΣ Γ΄

Μέγαν εὔρατο ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις σὲ  
ὑπέρμαχον ἢ οἰκουμένην, Ἀθλοφόρε,  
τὰ ἔθνη τροπούμενον. Ὡς οὖν  
Λυαίου καθεῖλες τὴν ἔπαρσιν, ἐν τῷ  
σταδίῳ θαρρύνας τὸν Νέστορα,  
οὕτως Ἅγιε, Μεγαλομάρτυς  
Δημήτριε, Χριστὸν τὸν Θεὸν ἰκέτευε,  
δωρήσασθαι ἡμῖν τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

RESURRECTIONAL, MODE IV

When the women Disciples of the  
Lord had learned from the Angel the  
joyful message of the Resurrection  
and rejected the ancestral decision,  
they cried aloud to the Apostles  
triumphantly: Death has been  
despoiled, Christ God has risen,  
granting His great mercy to the  
world.

FOR THE FOREFEAST, MODE IV

Jordan River once turned back when  
Elisha struck its stream with his  
mantle in the wake of Elias's ascent;  
and the water was parted to the one  
side and to the other. And thus the  
fluid stream became a dry way for  
him, a symbol and truly a type of  
Baptism, by which we now pass over  
the streaming passage of the present  
life. And Christ appeared at the  
Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

FOR OUR PATRON SAINT, MODE III

All the world has you, its mighty  
champion, fortifying us in times of  
danger, and defeating our foes, O  
Victorious One. So, as you humbled  
Lyaios's arrogance by giving courage  
to Nestor in the stadium, thus, O  
holy Great Martyr Demetrios, to  
Christ our God pray fervently,  
beseeching Him to grant us His great  
mercy.

Ἐν τοῖς ρείθροις σήμερον τοῦ  
Ἰορδάνου, γεγονῶς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ  
Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοᾷ· Μὴ δειλιάσης  
βαπτίσαι με· σῶσαι γὰρ ἦκω, Ἀδὰμ  
τὸν πρωτόπλαστον.

To the flowing streams today of  
River Jordan comes the Lord and  
cries aloud to John the Baptist, and  
He says, “Be not afraid to baptize me  
now; for I have come to save Adam,  
the first-formed man.”

READING FROM THE APOSTLE: 2 TIMOTHY 4.5-8

Προκείμενον· Σῶσον, Κύριε, τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν  
σου.

Στίχος· Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράξομαι, ὁ Θεός μου.

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσι, κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποιήσον  
εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη  
σπένδομαι, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως ἐφέστηκε. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν  
καλὸν ἠγώνισμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν τετήρηκα· λοιπὸν  
ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ Κύριος  
ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος κριτής, οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πᾶσι  
τοῖς ἠγαπηκόσι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ.

*Prokeimenon: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance.*

*Verse: To You, O Lord, I cry; O my God.*

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of  
an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of  
being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the  
good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth  
there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the  
righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but  
also to all who have loved his appearing.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL: MARK 1.1-8

Ἀρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδὸν σου ἔμπροσθέν σου· φωνὴ βοῶντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογούμενοι τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτῶν. Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας καμήλου καὶ ζώνην δερματίνην περὶ τὴν ὀσφὺν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται ὁ ἰσχυρότερός μου ὀπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς κύψας λῦσαι τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν Πνεύματι Ἁγίῳ.

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

### ΠΟΙΜΑΝΤΟΡΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ ΠΡΩΤΟΧΡΟΝΙΑΣ 2020

Πρός τόν εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερόν Κλήρον,  
Τούς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Ἐκκλησιαστικῶν Συμβουλίων,  
Τάς Προέδρους καί τά Μέλη τῶν Φιλοπτώχων Ἀδελφοτήτων,  
Τούς διδάσκοντας καί διδασκομένους τῶν Κατηχητικῶν καί Ἑλληνικῶν Σχολείων, Τάς  
Ὁργανώσεις τῆς Νεολαίας καί ἅπαν τό Χριστεπώνυμον πλήρωμα τῶν εὐσεβῶν Ὁρθοδόξων  
Χριστιανῶν τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Νέας Ἱερσέης.

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί,

Ἡ Χάρις καί τό ἔλεος τοῦ Παναγίου Τριαδικοῦ Θεοῦ μᾶς ἀξιώνει γιά μιᾶ ἀκόμη φορά  
στό διάβα τῆς ἐπιγείου ζωῆς μας νά ἐορτάσουμε καί νά ὑποδεχθοῦμε τήν ἔλευση τοῦ νέου  
ἡμερολογιακοῦ ἔτους. Νά ἐορτάσουμε κατά τό ἀνθρώπινον τήν ἀπαρχή κάτι καινούριου,  
ένός νέου σταθμοῦ τῆς ζωῆς μας, ὁποῖος σηματοδοτεῖ τήν ἀνανέωση τοῦ κοσμικοῦ χρόνου  
καί τήν εὐκαιρία γιά πνευματική καί ψυχική ἐπανασυγκρότηση.

Οἱ Ἅγιοι Πατέρες τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας διδάσκουν ὅτι ὁ χρόνος δέν εἶναι τίποτε ἄλλο  
παρά μιᾶ ἀκόμη ἀπό τίς πολλές εὐκαιρίες πού μᾶς παρέχει ὁ Πανάγιος Θεός μας γιά τήν  
σωτηρία τῆς ψυχῆς μας. Καί αὐτό τό ἀντιλαμβανόμαστε πολύ πιό ἔντονα, ἰδιαίτερα ἐμεῖς  
οἱ Ὁρθόδοξοι Χριστιανοί, ὅταν συνειδητοποιοῦμε ὅτι ὁ «κόσμος» τριγύρω μας, μᾶς  
βομβαρδίζει μέ μηνύματα ἀσυδοσίας καί ἀλαζονείας. Τό μόνο πού ἐνδιαφέρει τόν «κόσμο»  
εἶναι οἱ ἐορτασμοί, ἡ καλοπέραση, ἡ συνέχιση δηλαδή τοῦ ἀμαρτωλοῦ κατεστημένου πού  
ἔχει φέρεи τόν κόσμον καί τήν Θεία Δημιουργία στό χείλος τῆς καταστροφῆς. Ὁ «κόσμος»  
μᾶς καλεῖ νά πορευθοῦμε στόν δρόμον πού εὐχαριστεῖ καί ἱκανοποιεῖ μόνο τό «ἐγῶ» μας.  
«Φάγε, πῖε, εὐφραίνου» εἶναι τό μήνυμα πού ἀκούγεται ἀπό τήν ἐποχή τῶν Γραφῶν καί  
παραμένει ζωντανό μέχρι τίς ἡμέρες μας.

Στό σημεῖο αὐτό, δέν πρέπει νά ξεχνοῦμε ὅτι ἡ εἴσοδος μας στό νέο ἔτος σηματοδοτεῖ  
καί τήν συντόμευση τῆς ἐπιγείου παρουσίας μας. Ἔτσι λοιπόν, ἡ Ὁρθόδοξος Ἐκκλησία μας  
ἔρχεται γιά μιᾶ ἀκόμη φορά σέ πλήρη ἀντίθεση καί ἀντιπαράθεση μέ τό κοσμικό πνεῦμα,  
πού καθοδηγεῖται ἀπό τίς δυνάμεις τοῦ σκότους. Ἡ Ἐκκλησία μας διά τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου, τῶν  
Ἁγίων Πατέρων, τῆς Ἱερᾶς Παραδόσεώς της καί τῆς ἐμπράκτου πνευματικῆς ζωῆς, μᾶς  
διδάσκει ὅτι: «Μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γάρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν (Ματθ. 4,17)». Ὁ χρόνος εἶναι  
χρήσιμο ἐργαλεῖο στά χέρια κάθε πιστοῦ. Εἶναι εὐκαιρία γιά μετάνοια, γιά διόρθωση, γιά  
ἀλλαγὴ, γιά τήν καλυτέρευση τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ μας, γιά τήν συνειδητοποίηση τῶν λαθῶν μας,  
γιά τήν συγχώρηση τῶν ἀδελφῶν μας, γιά τήν ἐνίσχυση τῆς πίστεώς μας στόν Τριαδικό  
Θεό καί γιά περισσότερη καί ἐντονότερη συμμετοχή στήν Μυστηριακή ζωὴ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας

μας. Τό μήνυμα τοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ: «Μετανοεῖτε· ἤγγικε γάρ ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν (Ματθ. 4,17)» ἀκούγεται σήμερα πιό ἐπίκαιρο καί ἀναγκαῖο ἀπό ποτέ. Πραγματικά, ἡ Βασιλεία τῶν Οὐρανῶν βρίσκεται μέσα μας, καί ξεκινάει ἀπό αὐτήν τήν ζωή. Ὁ χρόνος λοιπόν μᾶς δίδεται ἀπό τόν Θεό ὥστε νά προσπαθήσουμε, νά βελτιωθοῦμε καί νά ἀρχίσουμε νά προγευόμαστε τήν ἀγαλλίαση αὐτῆς τῆς Οὐρανίου Βασιλείας.

Ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί,

Σήμερα, Πρωτοχρονιά, γιορτάζουμε, ἐλπίζουμε, ὀνειρευόμαστε ἕνα καλύτερο αὔριο. Ὀνειρευόμαστε ἕναν κόσμο καλύτερο, χωρίς ἀδικίες καί πολέμους. Ὀνειρευόμαστε ἕνα καλύτερο μέλλον γιά τά παιδιά μας. Ὅλα αὐτά τά ὄνειρα μποροῦν νά γίνουν πραγματικότητα μόνο μέ τήν Χάρη τοῦ Θεοῦ μας. Μόνον ἐάν ἀλλάξουμε ἐμεῖς θά ἀλλάξει καί ὁ κόσμος μας. Σ'αὐτόν τόν δρόμο τῆς ἐσωτερικῆς ἀλλαγῆς μᾶς βοηθᾷ μόνον ἡ Ἐκκλησία μας καί ἡ τήρηση τοῦ θελήματος τοῦ Θεοῦ. Σήμερα λοιπόν, καθώς θά ἐορτάζουμε μέ τούς ἀγαπημένους μας τό νέο ἔτος, ἄς ὑποσχεθοῦμε στόν Κύριό καί Θεό μας ὅτι ἡ ἀλλαγή τοῦ κόσμου μας θά ἀρχίσει μέ τήν ἀλλαγή τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ μας. Εὐχομαι σέ σᾶς καί τίς οἰκογένειές σας, σέ ὅλα τά ἀγαπημένα σας πρόσωπα, στά μέλη τῶν Ἑλληνορθόδοξων Κοινοτήτων μας καί σέ ὅλη τήν ἔνδοξη Ὀμογένειά μας, τό νέον ἔτος 2020 νά εἶναι εὐλογημένο καί ὑγιεινό, γεμάτο μέ ἐπιτυχίες καί πλήρες μέ τήν Χάρη καί τό ἔλεος τοῦ Τριαδικοῦ μας Θεοῦ.

Καλή Χρονιά! Χρόνια πολλά καί εὐλογημένα!

Μετά πατρικῆς ἀγάπης καί εὐχῶν,

**Ο ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ**

† Ὁ Νέας Ἱερσῆς Εὐαγγελοῦς



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

New Year 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

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 Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

The occasion of a new year provides for us ample opportunities. Principally, it allows us to reflect on the previous year and to thank God for all His blessings. For many, it also constitutes an ideal opportunity to set goals for the upcoming year, often called New Year resolutions. More often than not, these resolutions tend to address external matters, but we must be honest in asking ourselves, how often do we set spiritual resolutions for ourselves?

When we reflect on the past year can we truly say to ourselves that we prayed as much as we could or went to every Church service offered or never sinned? Certainly not! Therefore, we must be honest with ourselves in saying that there is always opportunity for spiritual growth. This can be done in a variety of ways, such as making goals to attend the Divine Liturgy more often, committing to increase one's personal prayer life, supporting the ministries of the Church more rigorously, or getting involved with organization and volunteer aspects of the Church. These actions help to set us on the correct path in building a strong spiritual life and if you do very few of these things, then set a reasonable goal for yourself to accomplish just a little bit more. If you already do many of these things, then find additional ways to increase your spiritual life. By setting spiritual resolutions for ourselves, we may prevent ourselves from being spiritually apathetic and offer to God more of ourselves since He has already blessed us with so much.

Additionally, the Church celebrates today the feast of St. Basil who, throughout his life, exemplified love for his neighbor. He typified this experience through his theological works and personal letters which often show that he was strict on himself and those close to him, but to those who were spiritually weak, he remained pastoral. He also showed love for his neighbor, particularly for the poor, by securing for them a return of their gold from the empire when they had been overburdened by tax assessments. When this money was returned to the people, he

devised a method by putting the gold coins in loaves of bread that were distributed to the populace and miraculously each family was given their just return. This is where we receive the tradition of the Vasilopita. St. Basil's ministry provides us with numerous examples of love for our neighbor and care for the poor which we should emulate in our own spiritual lives.

My beloved children in the Lord, I implore you to forever seek to do more in your spiritual lives. Start your day by making the sign of the cross. If you do not pray often, then try to pray at least once a day. Commit to attending the Divine services more often. Always seek to see the person of Christ in your neighbor and to help those in need. It is my sincerest prayer that each of you find the way to build up your spiritual lives in this New Year. Praying that you and your families have a happy, healthy, and blessed New Year filled with every good and perfect gift from our Lord, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a smaller, more compact script, while "Evangelos" is written in a larger, more prominent script. The signature is centered on the page.

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





# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

January 2, 2020

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy

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 Communities of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

The recent events wherein members of Jewish communities have been cruelly targeted and viciously attacked has both shocked and appalled our nation. These heinous and cowardly crimes have opened a deep wound which most have been trying to heal for decades – the wound of anti-Semitism. It appears, however, that the scourge of anti-Semitism along with its historic brutality has reappeared not in some distant land where cultures collide, but within our midst in a country epitomized by religious freedom and cultural melding. These unprovoked and unwarranted acts cannot be viewed as the problem of one particular community, but an infection affecting all communities. The members of the Jewish communities are our neighbors, they are our friends, and we stand united with them in declaring that hatred has no home here.

Our Lord asks us to look at each person as our neighbor. His example exhorts us to find the image of God in each person regardless of who they are, their race, their ethnicity, or their religion. The Lord spoke with the Samaritan woman and asked her for a drink of water at the Well of Jacob even though such actions were considered contrary to cultural norms. Our Lord expressed love for all people and treated them with dignity. So too must we show our love and support for all peoples and religious communities who are being targeted by persons filled with hatred.

Historically, we Orthodox Christians have marked our opposition to various forms of hatred and racism. We have long fought for and defended the religious freedoms and civil rights of our fellow human beings of different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Our opposition of ethnophyletism at the Council of Constantinople in 1872, Archbishop Iakovos' historic and courageous march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama, and the heroic initiatives of Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens are all examples in recent history wherein Orthodox Christians stood up against the forces of prejudice.

My beloved in the Lord, in this frightening era wherein we encounter new forms of aggression and hatred, ignorance and evil, violence and maliciousness, we must stand ever fervent in our resolve that peace is our language and love is our armament. We must remain determined that wherever and whenever we encounter these injustices we will not cower and remain silent, but we will confront this odious oppression and ardently speak out against this evil. Praying that God gives us to fortitude and strength to say and do that which is right and just in His eyes, and once again wishing you a happy, peaceful, loving and blessed New Year, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Evangelos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Metropolitan" is written in a larger, more prominent script, while "Evangelos" is written in a smaller, more delicate script to its right. The signature is centered on the page.

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



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

December 30, 2019

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy,  
Esteemed Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils and the PTO/PTA,  
Directors/Principals and Teachers of the Afternoon Greek Schools of the  
Delaware Valley Region of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved in the Lord,

I pray that my letter finds all of you well as we continue the celebration of the Miraculous Incarnation of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Once again, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey will be celebrating Greek Letters and the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs, St. Basil the Great, St. John Chrysostom and St. Gregory the Theologian, the Ecumenical Teachers of our Holy Orthodox Faith and profound supporters of Education. Furthermore, these Great Saints and Illuminators are the special Protectors of our Teachers, the educators who have devoted their life to the service of our Church and our children.

**This Metropolis Celebration for the Delaware Valley Region will take place on SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020, AT 4:00 PM AT THE ST. THOMAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CHERRY HILL, NJ.** The beautiful program will include the students of the area Greek Schools, as they narrate various poems, sing songs, and Greek dance with great pride. I look forward to seeing all of you as we gather together for this beautiful event to honor the Three Hierarchs, and to celebrate the work of our Greek School Educators and our Greek School Students.

Please R.S.V.P. by contacting the St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church at 856-665-1731 no later than Monday, January 20, 2020 so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

With Paternal Love and Blessings

† EVANGELOS  
Metropolitan of New Jersey



GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

Ο Σεβασμιώτατος Μητροπολίτης  
Νέας Ιερσέης κ. Ευάγγελος  
Σας προσκαλεί εγκαρδίως να συνεορτάσουμε

## «Την Εορτή των Τριών Ιεραρχών και την Ημέρα των Ελληνικών Γραμμάτων»



με την συμμετοχή των Ελληνικών απογευματινών σχολείων  
της Αρχιερατικής Περιφέρειας Μείζονος Φιλαδελφείας  
με θέμα: **«Η Σημασία της Εκπαίδευσης»**

**Κυριακή 26 Ιανουαρίου 2020, ώρα 4:00 μ.μ.**

**Ιερός Ναός Αγίου Θωμά**

615 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Θα τιμηθούν Εκπαιδευτικοί και Μέλη του Συλλόγου Γονέων  
των Ελληνικών σχολείων των Κοινοτήτων μας

Παρακαλούμε δηλώστε την συμμετοχή σας στον Ιερέα σας  
ή την Διεύθυνση του Σχολείου σας έως τις 10 Ιανουαρίου 2020

~ Η Είσοδος είναι δωρεάν αλλά απαιτείται εισιτήριο  
που θα λάβετε από την Ενορία σας~



GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

**His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey**

**Cordially invites all Hellenic Afternoon Schools**

**of the Delaware Valley to the**

## **2020 Greek Letters Day Celebration**

***Honoring the Three Hierarchs of our Orthodox Church***



***St. John Chrysostom, St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory the Theologian***

### ***“The Importance of Education”***

***A teacher and a PTO member from every Hellenic Afternoon School  
of the Delaware Valley Region will be honored for their service***

**Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 4:00 pm**

**St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church**

**615 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002**

**Dinner & Program for everyone present to enjoy.**

**Please inform the St. Thomas Principal by January 10, 2020.**

**You are kindly requested to contact your Parish Priest or Principal for  
complimentary admission tickets.**

**TICKET IS REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION**

## ΑΓΙΑΣΜΟΣ ΚΑΤΟΙΚΙΑΣ

Μετά τὰ Θεοφάνεια (6 Ἰαν.) ἀγιάζουμε τὰ σπίτια  
γιὰ τὴν καινούργια χρονιά. Συμπληρώστε αὐτὴν  
τὴν φόρμα γιὰ νὰ κλήσετε ἀγισμό τοῦ σπιτοῦ σας.

Ὄνομα: \_\_\_\_\_

Διεύθυνσις: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Τηλέφωνον: \_\_\_\_\_

Ἡμέρα/-ες Προτιμήσεως (Κυκλῶστε):

Τρίτη      Τετάρτη      Πέμπτη      Παρασκευή      Σάββατον

Ὡρα/-ες Προτιμήσεως (Κυκλῶστε):

Πρωΐ (10:00 π.μ. - 12:00 μ.μ.)      Ἀπόγευμα (1:00 - 5:00 μ.μ.)      Βράδυ (5:00 - 8:00 μ.μ.)



## House Blessings

After the feast of Theophany (Jan. 6) Orthodox Christians  
traditionally have their houses blessed for the New Year. To  
schedule a blessing, fill out and return this form to the  
Church Office. Fr. Gregory will call to schedule it.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Day (Circle all that apply):

Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

Preferred Time (Circle all that apply):

Morning (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)      Afternoon (1:00 - 5:00 p.m.)      Evening (5:00 - 8:00 p.m.)



PHILOPTOCHOS



# Philoptochos Society of Saint Demetrios "Agia Barbara"



The Philoptochos will be cutting the Annual  
Vasilopita for the New Year on Sunday, January 12,  
2020  
in the Small Hall after Liturgy

\*\*\*In addition this year we are offering a luncheon that will  
benefit Saint Basil's Academy!

Chicken Fingers  
French Fries  
Melomakarona  
Coffee and bottled water

**\$10.00**

**Please join us!**