The title of this article is the theme of our 42nd Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress, being held this month within our Holy Metropolis in the city of brotherly love, Philadelphia.

The use of the word “family” is often interpreted as a social unit consisting of parents and their children, dwelling as a group. Well, some dictionaries now also define family as any group of persons closely related by blood, parents, children, uncles, aunts and cousins, and also all those persons considered as descendants of a common progenitor.

The case then can be made for us as Orthodox Christians that it is not our last/surname that identifies us as family, but Jesus Christ, as our common Father. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. Therefore, the theme of “Orthodox Christian Family” includes those who are single, too.

Archbishop Demetrios writes, “For this year’s Congress, our theme will continue our focus on strengthening the family. Our theme is The Orthodox Christian Family: A Dwelling of Christ and a Witness of His Gospel. This theme is based on the prayer offered by the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians—For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named (Ephesians 3:15).

This proclamation affirms that God is the source and identity of the family. He created us in His divine image and likeness. He also created the family. As we live in a time when family as an institution is frequently attacked, such a statement is vital. The history of divine revelation as presented in the Holy Scriptures is filled with references to the family. From the creation of the human race with the first family—Adam, Eve, Cain, and Abel—to the origins of the Hebrew people with Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, and their descendants, family becomes the context for God’s divine work. Family is also essential in the fulfillment of His divine plan in the Incarnation of Christ. Our Lord was born into a family, and He spent thirty years with His family in Nazareth before starting His three years of public ministry.

The role of the family in the history of God’s revelation to humankind is joined in Holy Scripture by many passages that present the identity and ideals of what God intended the family to be. In the book of Proverbs and the deuterocanonical books of the Wisdom of Solomon and the Wisdom of Sirach, we are offered guidance on the qualities of family life. Further, many counsels presuppose a family environment. In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul addresses family relationships in several of his Epistles, offering guidance to husbands and wives, parents and children, and emphasizing the priority of love, commitment, and faith.

All of this together offers a strong, biblical foundation for our emphasis on the family as Church or kat’oikon ekklesia (Romans 16:5, Colossians 4:15). This con-

(Continued on page 14, column 2)
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CONCERNING THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously.

time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would inform her of this. Then she caught up and went into the presence of God. The Apostles, seeing her taken up, wept as long as they were living. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and she appeared to them, she said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Go, tell his disciples, ‘He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see him, as he said to you.’”

CONCERNING THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God (see October 3 and 4).

P.S. I began this article by thanking all those involved in our festival’s success. The sheer number of people involved occasionally results in the inadvertent omission of someone’s efforts and such was the case when I neglected to mention Dina Gadonas as one of the ladies who generously baked for our recent Easter picnic. Thank you Dina and all those who work on behalf of our community.

Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously.

Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulchre, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus’ Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying “Rejoice” to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens. These things has the Church received from the traditions of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God (see October 3 and 4).
PRISON MINISTRY

On April 10-13, 2014, I had the opportunity to accompany about 30 men in a prison ministry sponsored by KAIROS Prison Ministry International (KAIROS = GOD’s special time). The ministry is non-denominational and Christ centered. The members of the KAIROS Team come from all walks of life. There were doctors, lawyers, engineers, ex-offenders, ex-drug users, plus members of the clergy. There were many retirees from the military. There were Catholics, Protestants, Episcopalians, Methodists, and one Greek Orthodox.

The ministry was conducted at the Greensville Correctional Center (GRCC), Jarratt, Virginia. The GRCC is a medium-security facility within the Virginia Department of Corrections and is comprised of about 1,400 offenders. KAIROS Prison Ministry has been in existence since the 1970s and has developed an excellent program that has the highest rate of non recidivism.

Prior to admittance into a facility, at least 30 days (3 Saturdays) of KAIROS training is required in addition to training and background checks by the Virginia Department of Corrections. Each KAIROS team member was required to bring 100 dozen (1,200) homemade (not store bought) cookies to be used during the 4-day event. It was encouraged to obtain family, friends, and church members to assist in the making of the cookies. Additionally each team member was required to hand write a letter to each offender (42 participants) that was to take part of the 4-day event.

The cookies are an integral part of the KAIROS program because the residents never get anything sweet. In fact, the food is barely suitable for consumption so the opportunity to eat all the cookies you want is beyond description. To eat something sweet is a treat, but the opportunity to eat because the residents never get anything sweet. In fact, the food is barely suitable for consumption so the opportunity to eat all the cookies you want is beyond description. The limitations of space do not allow me to fully describe the events of the four-day encounter. But, I can tell everyone that it was one of the most awesome events of my life. I would also add that I shed more tears during those 4 days than I had shed the previous 25 years. It is a moving experience to witness the acceptance of GOD’s grace as one seeks forgiveness.

If one wants to jumpstart their spiritual life then I highly recommend involvement in a prison ministry. You will never be the same again.

I would be glad to further discuss the details of the weekend to anyone who is interested. Feel free to communicate with me at djgarbis@envdes.com or 202-437-7299 at anytime.

In Christ’s Service,

Dennis Garbis

Note: I, Fr. Costa, am grateful to Dennis for helping to lead our newest ministry at Saint Katherine—the Prison Ministry. This gives every one of us a way to co-op with KAIROS Prison Ministry and visit Christ (“I was in prison and you visited me . . . [Matthew 25-39]).”

Mr. Garbis has volunteered to meet with any interested individuals or groups that would like to participate in prison ministry. You may contact him or me. We will have more information in the next DOXA, as well as a meeting date in September.

H ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ

Τό καλοκαίρι εφτάσει! Ο κάθε ένας μας εκτός από τις καθημερινές υποχρεώσεις του καλοκαιριού ος μην ξεχνάει και τις πνευματικές του υποχρέωσεις. Η Πίστη στον Χριστό μάς στρειζεί και μας δίνει ζωή. Μόνο κοντά στον Χριστό μπορούμε να ξεδιψάσουμε. Ο Χριστός μάς προσφέρει το Ζωικό νέρο! Μην ξεχνάμε τα λόγια Του. "Αυτός που πιστεύει σε Μένα θα γίνει ποταμός που θα τρέχει, θα ποτίζει και θα δροσίζει την ανθρωπότητα".

Η άξονα της Θείας Λειτουργίας δεν συγκρίνεται με τίποτα. Είναι η πιο μεγαλειώδης προσέγγιση της Εκκλησίας. Είναι μοναδική, ανεπανάληπτη και αναντικατάστατη. Αυτό που βρίσκουμε στην Θεία Λειτουργία δεν μπορούμε να το βρούμε ποτέ αλλά:

- Ο Ρουμάνος στην γη! Ο Χριστός ανέμεσα μας! Η αληθινή λατρεία! Η τέλεια δοξολογία! Το αληθινό φώς!!
- Η Θεία Λειτουργία επιδίδα αποτελεσματικό πάνω στον ανθρώπο, τον γιαληνεύει, τον φωτίζει και τον αγιάζει. Υμών τον νου πάνω από τα καθημερινά και βιωτικά ζητήματα. Υποθάνει να ζετεράστε το φόβο και την απελπίσει του βαγνάτου. Μας δυναμώνει να αντιμετωπίσουμε τις δοκιμασίες και τις αντιδράσεις που συναντάμε στην ζωή. Διαπιστεύεται ολόκληρη η ζωή μας με αναστάτωση ελπίδα και χαρά. Μας χαρίζει την χάρη του Αγίου Πνεύματος. Ο Θεός έρχεται και κατασκευάζει μέσα μας!!
- Σύμφωνα με τον ρώσιο στοχαστή και λογοτέχνη Νικάλια Γκόγκολ αν δεν υπήρχε η Θεία Λειτουργία ο κόσμος θα γέμιζε από περισσότερους ανθρώπους, από απελπισμένους ανθρώπους, από μεγάλοτα αριθμού των αυτοκατοικούντων, οι φυλάκες θα γέμιζαν από περισσότερους εγκληματίες. Η νεολαία θα πλησιάζει περισσότερα τα ναρκωτικά, την διαφθορά, την αναρχία, τον μηδενισμό και την εγκληματικότητα.
- Η Θεία Λειτουργία θυμίζει και εμφανίζει στον ανθρώπο την αγάπη και ουράνια χριστιανική αγάπη!!
- Θέλω να μου, οδηγήσεις εμάς και τα παιδιά μας αυτό το καλοκαίρι αλλά και σε όλη μας την ζωή στον δικό Σου δρόμο.
- Καλό καλοκαίρι!!
- Αμήν.
This year has been amazing and a lot of fun for Paideia Preschool. Let me share some of the “funny” moments. Also, please remember that Paideia Preschool enrolls students year round ages 2-5.

From Ms. Evi’s and Kiki’s class (Ladybugs, 2 year olds):

The other day we were in the hallway and one of the students pointed out the bouzouki that is encased on the wall. The student shouted, “Look, it’s a guitar!” Using this as a good learning moment, Kyria Kiki praised him for realizing that it was an instrument, but said, “Good job! It is an instrument, but it is not a guitar, it’s a bouzouki.” The student was insisting that it was a guitar, when another student, who is not of Greek descent, turned around and responded with, “No!! It’s not a guitar! It’s a zouki!”

From Ms. Vicky’s and Ms. Saba’s class (Bumble Bees, 3 year olds):

One day, Ms. Vicky heard the children as they were going up the slide to say to each other “Σκουλήκι” (worm). In the beginning, she thought that the kids saw a worm, but then she heard Angelo saying to the kids, “Say skouliki.” That is when she realized that this was the password for anybody who wanted to go up the slide. Free play gives the students the opportunity to use their imagination and develop their social skills.

It is morning and Stratys’s mom keeps telling him that it is time to wash his face and get ready for school. So she tells him, “You need to wash the eye boogers off your face in order to go to school” to which Stratys replied, “Does Ms. Vicky wash her eye boogers off her face in the morning before she comes to school?”

Panagioti was frustrated because his class had to leave the playground and go back inside. So, he told Ms. Vicky, “I am going to leave and go to Greece and you will be looking for me, but you will not be able to find me”.

Around circle time Ms. Saba was talking with the class about the different professions and how each person is a big helper with what they do. When she asked “What do you call the person that collects the trash?” they responded with, “Trashman.”

From Ms. Evangelia’s class (Owls, 3 year olds):

Stefanos was trying to teach his mom how to say “Μέλισσα”, the word for bee in Greek. While his mom was trying really hard, he finally told her, “Mom, I don’t think you have a Greek mouth.” It is amazing how soon the students realize that there are different accents.

Rick and his mom are out to dinner and he said, “Mom, the chef (he really meant the waiter) is Greek. His mom asked, “How do you know?” He said, “Hola.” In Greek Όλα means everything! Another time as they were leaving the school he saw two latino workers and greeted them in Greek, “Γεια σας.”

Student: “Miss Kiki. I want to be Elsa when I grow-up.”

Miss Kiki: “That’s wonderful! You want to be a teacher like Kyria Elsa?”

Student: “No! Not Kyria Elsa, QUEEN Elsa from Frozen,” (a Disney movie).

From Ms. Elsa’s class (Stars, 4 year olds):

One day Ms. MaryAnn was wearing long pants and a long shirt and one of the students said: ‘‘Ms. MaryAnn did you come with your pajamas to school today?’’

As the school year was coming to an end, one student yelled out, “Enough! Enough school. Enough Paideia. Time to close the school and go to Greece!”

That’s all for now! More memorable moments to come in the fall!

Kalo Kalokairi/Καλό Καλοκαίρι!

2014 HEC SUMMER CAMP: 7 WEEKS OF FUN!

**Week 1, June 30 - July 3: Party in the USA**
Learn all about America and end the week with a 4th of July picnic.

**Week 2, July 7 - 11: Around the World**
Travel with your passport and enjoy an international potluck lunch on Friday.

**Week 3, July 14 - 18: Spirit of the Olympics**
Catch the spirit of the Olympics and end the week with the HEC Olympic Games

**Week 4, July 21 - 25: Under the Sea**
Explore the land and sea through nature and craft projects.

**Week 5, July 28 - August 1: Art Week**
After exposure to various art mediums throughout the week, an art gallery (with the campers’ creations) will be set up on Friday.

**Week 6, August 4 - 8: Dr. Seuss**
Explore a variety of Dr. Seuss’ books. Older children (ages 6-9) will receive instruction in traditional Greek Folk Dance.

**Week 7, August 11 - 15: Sports, Fitness & Food**
Using MyPlate.org, campers will be introduced to a health and active lifestyle.

$275 per week for the half-day program (9:00am-12:30pm) / $300 per week for the full-day program (9:00am-3:30pm)
$385 per week for the extended care program (7:00am-6:00pm)
$20 activity fee per child / add’l $100 per week for non-stewards of Saint Katherine
Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΚΟΣΜΑΣ Ο ΑΙΤΩΛΟΣ
Σοφία Λ. Τσαγκάλη

(Continued on page 14, column 1)

BOOK REVIEW
Gregory McKinney


[Paul said] “And He made from one blood every nation of men to dwell upon all the face of the earth, and He ordained their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, in order for them to seek the Lord, if perhaps indeed they might grope for Him and find Him, and yet being indeed not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’” (Acts 17:26-28, EMTV)

As Paul made their ‘Unknown God’ known to the Athenians in the Person of Christ, so does Hieromonk (now Abbot) Damascene seek to make Christ known to those enamored of the Taoist religion of China. While this includes millions upon millions of Chinese, Taoism is also a faith often explored by Westerners turning from Christ towards Asia, looking for a spirituality and mode of life that they (mistakenly) believe to be absent among the people claiming Him.

Having been introduced to Orthodoxy by Fr. Seraphim Rose (+1982), Abbot Damascene (and I) expressed a youthful admiration for the ancient writings of the Chinese sage, Lao Tzu, source of the Taoist religion. The Abbot has no interest in syncretism; his aim is not to weave together some “feel-good” hybrid of Taoism and Christianity.

Instead, he takes a cue from the Church Fathers in their recognition of the incomplete, yet genuine, way that Plato and Socrates revealed something of the mind of the Father and prepared the way for Christ in the ancient Greek- and Latin-speaking worlds. Damascene says, “If the Greek philosophers can be honored in this way, cannot also Lao Tzu, who came even closer that they to describing the Logos, the Tao, before He was made flesh, and dwelt among us?”

He opens the book with a series of seventy-eight poetic Christian reflections mirroring Lao Tzu’s Tao Teh Ching and exploring the similarities of spirit between Christ the Logos and the Tao as realized by Lao Tzu. Damascene demonstrates that the only thing lacking in Lao Tzu’s profound intuitions of ultimate reality was the knowledge of personalism of God as revealed in Christ. The book’s second part is a deeper analysis of the philosophical principles common to the two faiths. In the third part, the Abbot reveals how Orthodoxy and the monasticism of the Christian East offers a spirituality every bit as profound and powerful as that of the Far East, but completed by the full revelation of God in Christ.

If you know a lapsed Christian looking to the Oriental religions for something he has yet to encounter in his native faith, offer him a copy of Christ the Eternal Tao. Perhaps his heart will then call him to Holy Orthodoxy.

In 2013, Iggumen Damascene (Christensen) became the abbot of St. Herman of Alaska Monastery (Serbian Orthodox Church) in Platina, CA, where he has lived for over 25 years.
REGISTRY

**Weddings**
Daniela Carcani and
Ivan Rafael Sljussar (June 1)
Koumbara: Nikoleta Tzaferos

Elpida (Hope) Demetriou and
Bruno Cardoso (June 14)
Koumbaroi: Petros Demetriou and
Sophia Lambrou Christodoulou

Caroline V. Handal and
Dimitrios Sotiropoulos (June 14)
Koumbaroi: Stelios Vatikiotis and
Anastasia Sotiropoulos

Sarah Elizabeth Dunnigan Palacpac and
Naoum Elias Anagnos (June 21)
Koumbaros: Alexander Antzoulatos

Cynthia Ginter and
Constantine Souvagis (June 28)
Koumbaros: Emilius James Souvagis

Vaia E. Abatzis and
Allan E. Lewis (June 28)
Koumbaroi: Christos and Theodora Gougoufkas

**Baptisms**
Nicholas Thomas (May 24)
son of Carter and Andrea Wilkinson
Godparent: Maria Gevas Hagen

Sena Mariam (May 25)
daughter of David and Zemma Chachu
Godparent: Zeleka Mamo

Nikolas Alexander (June 1, 25)
son of Alexander and Victoria Hatzis
Godparent: Nicholas Theodore Murn

Thomas Andrew (June 14)
son of Justin and Christine Leonard
Godparent: Peter Kalos

**Chrismation**
Vasilli Athanasiou Alafogiannis
son of Athanasios and Roseanne Alafogiannis
Sponsor: Themistocles Karavites

Congratulations!

**Funerals**
Kondylo Bakogiorgis (April 17, Sparta, Greece)
George Paul Peter John Hadgopoulos (May 22)
Panagiotis Pete Stathis (June 11)
Chris Christofi (June 14)
Zena (Zoe) Hayes (June 16, Baltimore, MD)

May their memory be eternal.

GREEK CHAMBER MUSIC PROJECT
Gilda Vretea and Marilyn Schimpf

On June 7, 2014 a concert sponsored by The Hellenic Society Prometheas was held at the Hellenic Center in Bethesda. Three talented young musicians presented the classical compositions of M. Hadjidakis, M. Kalomiris, S. Xarhakos, M. Theodorakis, and of the Cypriot Joseph Benakis. The artists were Ellie Falaris Ganelin flute, University of Maryland and founder of the Greek Chamber Music Project; Mary-Victoria Voutsas, piano, American University; and Anna Matijasic Hennessy, violin, of University of Virginia and James Madison University. The event was well attended and the audience responded with enthusiasm to the excellent playing and interpretation.

It should be noted that Mary-Victoria Voutsas is the granddaughter of Mr. Yiannis Papadopoulos, former principal at Saint Katherine Greek School, and the daughter of Mr. Stratis Voutsas and Mrs. Georgia Papadopoulos-Voutsas, members of our community. We wish these young talented musicians the best and we hope to hear them again soon.
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Please check the online calendar, [http://saint-katherines.org/calendar](http://saint-katherines.org/calendar), for the most current information.
## AUGUST 2014

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**MISSIONS AND OUTREACH**

**Project Mexico, August 13-19.** Our mission trip to Project Mexico is less than two months away—August 13-19. The team will be staying at St. Innocence Orphanage and will be involved in homebuilding near Tijuana, Mexico. Fr. Panayiotis Hanley will be the spiritual leader. This is a great opportunity for adults and teenagers to witness their faith and enjoy an experience that will change their lives. The total cost of the trip will be approximately $1,500. If you are interested in more information, please contact Ray Vazquez at rayvazquez1@aol.com. Also, you can go to the Project Mexico website: http://projectmexico.org/HomeBuilding.aspx. If you would like to donate or sponsor one of our missionaries, please make your check payable to Saint Katherine, and note Project Mexico and the missionary’s name.

**Food Pantry.** The next date for food collection for the Food Pantry is October 19, 2014. For the three Sundays prior to the collection, we will be passing out our blue collection bags again after church. We have hit 1,000 pounds of food for the last three collections! Thanks to all for your generosity. Let’s do even better in October.

The shelter is open every Saturday from 9:00am to 12:00pm to distribute the food. They need volunteers to help with the distribution. If you are interested in donating your time to this worthy cause, contact our own Rebecca Leung, rleung96b@yahoo.com. Spanish speakers are especially welcome.

**Monumental Mission Walk, November 15.** Our next mission walk on the National Mall will be Saturday, November 15, starting at 9:00am. This year, our tent will be at 15th Street and Constitution Avenue. Jen and Alex Carr will coordinate this year’s walk to benefit Orthodox missions internationally and locally. Details will appear in a future issue of DOXA. In 2013, we had 184 participants. Come join us this year!

**OCMC Benefit Dinner, April 26, 2015.** Next year, our OCMC benefit dinner will feature Rev. John Chakos who is our long-term missionary in Guatemala. Fr. Chakos has served for many years in Pittsburgh, PA but now he and his wife are working with the new Orthodox Church in Guatemala. He will share with us the exciting events occurring in Guatemala as hundreds of thousands are coming to follow Christ’s command to make disciples of all nations in this land where less than a generation ago, complete atheism was enforced by the totalitarian communist government. Albania is one of the fastest changing countries in the world as it moves to integrate economically and culturally with Western Europe. The Orthodox Church of Albania has experienced a resurrection under the inspired leadership of Archbishop Anastasios. This resurrection is one of the miracles of the Orthodox world today but it is a fragile miracle and there is still much work to do.

The ministry of the Hoppes is focused on seminary students, university students and children. Nathan teaches a course of the early Church fathers at the Resurrection of December 25, 2014.

(Continued on page 11)
**PHILOPTOCHOS (by Eleni Kanakos, President)**

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK our Saint Katherine community for making our spring festival such a huge success. Thank you to all the Philoptochos women who helped in so many different ways. A special thanks to Mary Varlas for all her hard work with the pastries.

We had a great time at our annual end-of-year dinner at Amphora. Thank you, Bilidas and Cholakis families, for your hospitality.

Have a great summer!

**DAUGHTERS OF PENELlope (by Karen Polizos, President)**

Helle Chapter #283 held initiations for 13 new members and reinstated 3 this past September through May, and we are gearing up for another busy year! If you would like to learn more about the Daughters of Penelope and how to join, please contact Karen Polizos at 571-434-7790, or Rosalie Georgeadis at 703-532-1723.

We enjoyed a lovely “Girls’ Day Out” afternoon at the Lake Anna home of Lynn Francis for our end of year celebration. The setting was beautiful and the food was delicious. At the Saint Katherine’s Greek School graduation ceremony held in June, Helle Chapter presented its 2014 Hellenism Award to two graduating students for their academic achievement and individual excellence. Congratulations to the recipients—Sophia Pelekasis and Iliana Tzafolias. Each also received a copy of Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey. The objectives of the Daughters of Penelope are to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family, and Individual Excellence.

We hope everyone enjoys a fun and safe summer! Kalo kalokeri!

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**BOOKSTORE**

Please visit our church bookstore in the community center after the liturgy. We carry a wide assortment of Orthodox books, icons, and other items to enrich your spiritual life.

**SO GO AND RUN FREE**

*Author Unknown*

So go and run free with the angels
Dance around the golden clouds
For the Lord has chosen you to be with him
And we should feel nothing but proud
Although he has taken you from us
And our pain a lifetime will last
Your memory will never escape us
But make us glad for the time we did have
Your face will always be hidden
Deep inside our hearts
Each precious moment you gave us
Shall never, ever depart
So go and run free with the angels
As they sing so tenderly
And please be sure to tell them
To take good care of you for me

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church offers a grief support group, GRACE (Grief Recovery: Accepting, Coping, and Evolving). For further information, please call Fr. Costa Pavlakos at 703-671-1515. Thank you to Maria Papageorgiou for contributing articles nearly every month for the last 10 years.

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**HOMELESS SHELTER**

**Hygiene and Survival Kits.** For the fourth straight year, we will be providing Hygiene and Survival Kits to the Homeless shelter. These kits are given out during the winter months when the shelter cannot accommodate everyone who would like to stay. Each church organization has been asked to contribute one or two items for the kits. Our Sunday School students will prepare the kits on December 14. If there are any questions, please contact Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com

**Feed the Homeless.** We continue to take food to the Homeless Shelter once a month. The July and August dates have not yet been set. If you are interested in helping to serve food at the shelter, please contact Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com

**Clothes and Toiletries.** We continue to collect clothing and toiletries for the homeless shelter all year long. Bring new or clean used clothes and unopened toiletries to the foyer of our Meletis Charuhas Center.

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(Continued from page 10)

Christ Theological Academy and leads the ministry to students at the University of Tirana. Nathan also directs the Central Children’s Office of the Orthodox Church of Albania a ministry in which he works closely with Gabriela. Nathan is also the team leader for the OCMC missionary team in Albania. He represents the Orthodox Church of Albania at a number of international gatherings including the official dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church and the dialogue with the Lutheran World Federation. Together Nathan and Gabriela lead a team of 25 Albanian Orthodox youth to Kosovo each year where they hold friendship camps for about 1,800 Muslim Albanian children. These camps are part of the social and philanthropic work of the Orthodox Church of Albania.

The Hoppes have three children, Tristan (15), Katherine (13), and Daniel (3).

Please partner with the Hoppes through prayer and financial support. Checks should be made out to the OCMC and in the bottom left line write: Hoppes. Checks should be mailed to the OCMC at 220 Masson Manatee Way, St. Augustine, FL 32086
ALL AROUND THE TOWN
Joanna Bose

EL GRECO: 400 YEARS LATER

In early November, the National Gallery of Art will have an exhibit commemorating the 400th anniversary of El Greco’s death in 1614. The NGA already houses one of the largest collections of the painter’s works in the U.S., but this exhibit will hopefully include some lectures that will provide those unfamiliar with his work and history greater insight into this very unique painter.

Domenikos Theotokopoulos was born on Crete in 1541, when the island was under Venetian rule. He trained in the Byzantine tradition of icon painting and many consider him to be the last Byzantine creator. When he emigrated to Venice in 1567, he joined the workshop of the Italian master Titian and there he also came to know the works of other masters like Michelangelo and Tintoretto.

For practical reasons, he took up portrait painting, a genre at which he later excelled, fusing the Italian mannerist style with his already developed talent for icon painting.

In 1577 he emigrated yet again to Spain. Toledo, which had been the seat of government up until a short time before his arrival, was a new home that would prove ripe for his imagination and talent. He also had opportunities to design and build altarpieces in chapels.

One such was the Chapel of San Jose in Toledo, which was commissioned by a wealthy trader. El Greco designed the altarpiece which included two of the works we have here in the permanent collection: St. Martin and the Beggar and Madonna and Child with St. Martina and St. Agnes. This chapel remains as a good example of 16th century architectural design today.

My own fascination with El Greco comes from seeing how he portrays the human condition of being suspended between heaven and earth. His figures often seem other-worldly; the religious subjects are particularly well represented in their expression of elevation into another realm. The elongation of bodies, the use of light and color, the insistence on showing faces upturned or otherwise engaged in another experience than their earthly one; all these elements can be at once unsettling and inspiring. Most certainly inspiring.

CELEBRATE FREEDOM! There’s no better place to be on Independence Day than the National Mall, the nation’s most important civic space. This year’s fireworks not only celebrate the birth of our nation, but continue the bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812 and mark the 200th anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner.
CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Victoria Ann Campbell, daughter of Frances and Michael Campbell, sister of Dean, granddaughter of Anna Moshos, graduated from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia, with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Biology and minor in Psychology. She was a member of the Beta Beta Beta Biology Honor Society, Pre-Health Medical Society, Alpha Phi Omega Service Society and a three-year Member on the Academic Integrity Council. She will pursue her medical doctorate in Graduate School.

Sofia Antoniou Cardamone, daughter of Thomas Cardamone and Soula Antoniou, graduated from Washington-Lee High School with an Advanced Diploma. Sofia received an Advanced Placement Award for all four years and an International Baccalaureate certificate. Her accomplishments include the Quill & Scroll Honor Society for Excellence in Scholastic Journalism, participation in the Global Citizen Project in Costa Rica and apprenticing at the Arlington Independent Media producing documentaries. Sofia played sports all four years and received the Athletic Director’s Tri-Athlete Award. She volunteered as a camp counselor during summers and with multiple clubs during school including Best Buddies. Sofia will attend Northeastern University in Boston, MA and as a freshman will study abroad at the American College of Thessaloniki.

Deanna Coronis, daughter of Dr. Susan D. Coronis, graduated from T.C. Williams High School and will attend Goucher College, Baltimore, MD, in the fall. Deanna plans to study Environmental Science, with a minor in Sociology, at Goucher College in Baltimore in the fall. She graduates from T.C. Williams High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society for four years, and received her school’s Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. Deanna served on the Student Superintendent Leadership Committee, and was an active member of the Environmental Science Garden Club. She volunteered at Red Cross and the ALIVE Food Distribution Program, and was honored at the White House for her volunteerism. Deanna played the saxophone in the school band, and completed a senior internship at National Geographic in June.

Maggie Goldsmith, daughter of Eleni Sempeles Goldsmith and Michael Goldsmith, graduated from Bishop O’Connell High School in Arlington, VA and will attend James Madison University in the fall. Maggie lettered four years in Varsity Tennis and three years in Varsity Softball. She was a member of GOYA for 3 years, serving as secretary for 2013-2014. Maggie was Editor-in-Chief of her school newspaper, was a member of the Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society for High School journalists, received the Coach’s award for Tennis, and was the recipient of the House of Kefelos Scholarship Award and the Joan Dalianis Foundation Scholarship Award.

Irene Nicole Kalis, daughter of Mary Papadopoulos and Nicholas Kalis, graduated from American University’s Kogod School of Business with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) with specializations in Real Estate and Finance. Irene is working at CBRE, a commercial real estate services firm.

Alexandra Kiszka, daughter of Thomas and Flora Kiszka, will attend Longwood University this fall following her graduation from Hayfield Secondary School. Alex played volleyball throughout high school. She will be majoring in English at Longwood.

Stavros Kontzias graduated with an Advanced degree from Langley High School in McLean, VA. He was a 4-year varsity Tennis player, member of the National Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and Math Honor Society. His Tennis team reached the Virginia state finals 3 of his 4 years. He will attend James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia in the Fall majoring in Business.

Thomas Taylor Soiles graduated from Washington-Lee High School in Arlington. He plans to attend Guilford College in North Carolina, majoring in both psychology and criminal justice.

Joanna Thomas, daughter of Craig and Lori Thomas, graduated from McLean High School as a Valedictorian. She will attend the University of Virginia this fall. While at McLean, Joanna served as class President, played flute in the marching and symphonic honor bands, attended the Virginia Governor’s Japanese Language Academy, played basketball and lacrosse, and coached middle school girls’ basketball in the McLean Youth League.

Christopher Michael Trahos, son of Dr. Michael and Helen Trahos, and brother of Paula, received the degree of Juris Doctor with academic honors from the University of Notre Dame Law School. Prior to law school, Christopher attended Georgetown University where he received both his undergraduate and master’s degrees. During his time at law school, Christopher was a Dean’s Award Recipient, Excellence in Oral Advocacy Award Recipient, Solicitations Editor for the Notre Dame Journal of Legislation, and Vice President of the Sports, Communications, and Entertainment Law Forum.

Panayiota Tsiaoushis, daughter of Sophia Varlas, graduated from George C. Marshall High School and will attend Randolph-Macon College in the fall. Panayiota placed 3rd in State DECA competition, she was FBLA leader for three consecutive years. She was in Best Buddies which is an organization that serves children with special needs, a regular volunteer at Jill’s House in McLean that offers respite care for children with special needs and their families, an active member of Relay for Life and Student Activities Director at Marshall. Panayiota is also a responsible member of the community, good citizen, loving sister, niece, daughter, and granddaughter!
SHOWN BELOW is a list of families and individuals who participated in the 2014 Saint Katherine Stewardship Program from May 1 through May 31, 2014. Thank you for responding to the needs of our church. Any questions? Contact Anna Vassilopoulos at 703-671-1515.

M/M Evanghelos Abatzis
M/AHEPA CHAPTER No. 438
M/M Vasili Alafogiannis
M/Alexios Dimopoulos
M/Antonios Antonis
Mrs/Sophie Barfield
Mrs/Jill Beverly
Mr/Lambros Bisbikis and
Mrs/Georgia Siozios
M/Jeffrey Borst
Mrs/Christof and Mr/Arias
M/M Chris Christou
M/M Chrisostos Christou
M/M Paul Chrstitou
Miss/Lijiana Ciric
M/M Gus Costas
Ms/Dorothea Davidian
M/M Alesios Dimopoulos
DOP/Helle #283

M/M James Enos
Ms/Despina Foster
Mr/Michael Ignatiou
Mr/William Jackson and
Mrs/Maria Liakos
Mr/Peter Kalos
Mr/Nitos Karaiskos
M/M Peter Karounos
Mr/Spiro Kastanis
Mrs/Anastasia Kiltansas and
M/M Stephen Willett
M/M Dimitris Kouratellas
M/M Constantine Kowalski
M/M Michael Lampros
Mrs/Mr/Christine Leonard
Ms-Julie Lippmann
M/M James Loizou
M/M Allen Lyubinsky
Dr/Thomas Mandes
Dr/Mrs/Spiros Manolas
M/M John Markogiannakis
Mrs/Eleanor Galifiannakis
M/M Demetrios Nicholakos
Mr/Evan Owen and
Dr/Joanna Athanasopoulos
M/M Nickolas Panteleous
M/M Odysseas Papadimtriou
M/M Stephen Rader
M/M/ Basil Rousos
Mr/Andrew Sessions
Mrs/Andrea Gevas
Mr/Keith Woolridge
Mr/Keith Xefteris

M/M James Loizou
Ms/Despina Foster
Mr/Michael Ignatiou
Mr/William Jackson and
Mrs/Maria Liakos
Mr/Peter Kalos
Mr/Nitos Karaiskos
M/M Peter Karounos
Mr/Spiro Kastanis
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Dr/Joanna Athanasopoulos
M/M Nickolas Panteleous
M/M Odysseas Papadimtriou
M/M Stephen Rader
M/M/ Basil Rousos
Mr/Andrew Sessions
Mrs/Andrea Gevas
Mr/Keith Woolridge
Mr/Keith Xefteris

SAINT KATHERINE LIVE!

Did you know that we have a live feed from our church? Relatives and friends from far away can watch a sacrament. If you are sick and cannot make it to a service, you can still participate. Sign in to the church website, saint-katherines.org, and click on the red “Saint Katherine Live!” button in the right-hand column.

(Continued from page 6, column 1)
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