



Friends

NEWSLETTER

St. Augustine, FL ~ Fall Issue 2016

The St. Photios Foundation Offers Congratulations to His All Holiness, BARTHOLOMEW, Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch who 25 years ago was elected and enthroned as 270th Archbishop of Constantinople in the 2000-year old Church founded by St. Andrew.

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Greek Landing Day 2016

238th Anniversary of Greeks Arriving in the New World



A celebration hosted by the Rev. Father Joseph Samaan and the community of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Daytona Beach, FL

June 25th marked the 238th commemoration of the arrival of the Greek colonists in St. Augustine. 500 Greeks debarked, after two grueling months at sea, from 4 of the 8 ships that carried the entrepreneurial dreams of Andrew Turnbull and the British crown. The New Smyrna venture ended as a fatal nightmare for 950 of the 1402 indentured servants.

For the past 30 years, the St. Photios Foundation has observed this chapter of Greek immigration history with solemnity and celebration. Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos, assisted by Rev. Father Joseph Samaan and Deacon Athanasios Kartsonis, celebrated the ecclesiastical services held on Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25. The souls of Archbishop Iakovos of America and godparents of the Shrine, George and Georgia

Croffead of Charleston, SC, were commemorated with the souls of the early colonists.

The civic ceremony began with Her Honor, Mayor Nancy Shaver, reading the City of St. Augustine Greek Landing Day Proclamation. His Grace then led the clergy and laity in the dedication of the new permanent exhibit, the Three Hierarchs of St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine. St. Photios Foundation First Vice President Archon Dr. Manuel Tissura and his wife Elaine, and Shrine Architect, Archon Ted Pappas and his wife Mary Lee, were among the dignitaries present. The new exhibit was designed by Tissura and Pappas, and made possible through the estate of Bishop John of Amorion.

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43rd Biennial Clergy Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

"You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World"



Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver, Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago, Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea, Archbishop Demetrios of America, Metropolitan Damaskinos of Kydonia and Apo Koronon, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston and Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta

Over 1,000 Greek Orthodox faithful gathered at Nashville's Gaylord Hotel over the Fourth of July holiday for the 43rd Biennial Clergy Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. It began Sunday, July 3rd with the celebration of the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry House.

Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America, presided over the hierarchical Divine Liturgy. Clergy co-celebrated with Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver, Metropolitan Alexios of Atlanta, Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, and Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey.

Later that afternoon, attendees waited outside the Exhibit Hall which was underwritten by Leadership 100. L100 Executive Director Paulette Poulos and L100 President George Tsandikos presented His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios, with the ribbon cutting scissors. The Metropolitans and Patriarchal representatives, Metropolitan Ambrosios of Korea and Metropolitan Damaskinos of Kydonia and Apo Koronon, joined His Eminence in a walk through the colorful and informative venue.

St. Photios volunteers, Gee Gee Angelopoulos, Leslye Alex Phillips, and Michael Toundas, received the blessing of the hierarchs at the St. Photios Shrine booth. Over the course of the assembly, hundreds stopped at the Shrine information booth. The volunteers raised awareness about our Archdiocese's first Shrine and promoted the Friends' Membership Program, raising \$2,000 in Friends' donations.

Throughout the week, friends reunited while new friendships were forged. There were opportunities to connect with people and programs of diverse disciplines (religious freedom, youth protection, family life ministries, and prison ministry were among those workshops offered). There was a strong witness of our Archdiocesan departments through the creative showcasing of their programs. There was opportunity to witness the work of the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians and HCHC at their evening programs and receptions.

His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios wrote "This is the voice that must be our voice. His words must be heard and the Gospel communicated in all that we do. Now is the acceptable time for us to be the voice of Christ and to use our liberty in Him to offer truth, grace, and eternal life in a changing world." This truly was "an occasion to enjoy unlimited blessings of the love and grace of God" through Metropolitan Nicholas, the parish of Holy Trinity, Nashville, and the organizing committee chaired by Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson.



Left : Shrine Volunteers Leslye Alex Phillips and Michael Toundas with Vasiliki Tsigas-Fotinis (NJ Metropolis)



Below: Shrine Volunteer Gee Gee Angelopoulos (right) with Paula Marchman, Director of Family Life Ministries (ATL Metropolis)

-Continued from page 1

All proceeded to the Shrine's Constantine Sisters Courtyard where the youth of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Daytona Beach, FL, performed four Greek folk dances. St. Barbara Philoptochos chapter of St. Demetrios, Daytona Beach, then hosted a reception and bake sale. Toula Klironomou and her son Peter, of the AHEPA Speedway Chapter #410, hosted the Landing Day Luncheon in honor of Bishop Dimitrios.

Over 500 people stopped by the Shrine during the 2-day festivities. Shrine volunteers and staff offered formal tours of the chapel and talks on the history of the Greek colonists. There was an offering of savory and sweet samples of Greek cuisine and a wine tasting on Friday evening.

After Saturday's ecclesiastical and civic ceremonies, Shrine Director Polly Hillier and Andrew Lekos, Missions Team Director at the Orthodox Christian Mission Center, spoke with Father Sampson Kasapakis and the youth and adults visiting from St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Tarpon Springs, Florida, about these programs of the Orthodox Church which are located in St. Augustine. This was a first time Shrine visit for many of the Tarpon Springs visitors.

The St. Photios Foundation is grateful to Leadership 100 and the National Ladies Philoptochos Society, who so generously and steadfastly support this event each year.

This event would not be possible without the hard work and sacrifice of the three parishes located closest to the Shrine - St. Demetrios, Daytona Beach, Holy Trinity, St. Augustine, and St. John, Jacksonville. Every year they take a turn in chairing this auspicious event. We thank Father Joseph, Phyllis Hawkins and Markella Balasis, St. Barbara's Philoptochos Chapter, Ashleigh Augustine and the St. Demetrios Dancers, Pete Klironomou and AHEPA Chapter #410, and all those who contributed to this event. Well done - KAI TOY XPONOI!



Irene Katra, Toula Klironomou, & Elizabeth Williams



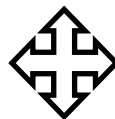
Rev. Joseph Samaan, Bishop Dimitrios and Dn. Athanasios Kartsonis at the Blessing of the Five Loaves



Mayor Shaver, Elaine and Manuel Tissura ,and Fanya Paouris



Rev. Joseph Samaan and Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos look on as Mayor Nancy Shaver reads the Greek Landing Day Proclamation



**Looking for a meaningful present?
Consider a Friends' membership or
shop St. Photios' online gift shop at
www.stphotios.org**

Making Connections Down Under

Welcome Jewels Anthea Sidiropoulos



Tina Stoumbos with the Hellenic Academy of Orlando

I traveled to San Francisco for the May 2015 Archdiocesan Council meeting. Among my parish and individual visits was a Saturday noontime appointment with Jim Lucas, founder of the Greek Historical Society of San Francisco. For more than a decade, Jim has documented many projects digitally within the community to insure a meticulous and wide trove of Greek history in the Bay Area. He is passionate and steadfast in his work. He is an accessible networker. I received an email from him May of this year about a visit he had from a historical researcher from Melbourne, Australia. Her future production is currently called *Greeks: Port to Port*. He said - "Polly, I told her, she cannot fully complete her research in the United States before meeting you and learning the Shrine colonists' story." We will ever be indebted to Jim for connecting us with such a passionate, capable, engaging sister in Christ!



Tina Bucuvalas, Leonidas Zafiris, and Anthea Sidiropoulos

Anthea (aka Jewels) Sidiropoulos is an adult child of Greek immigrants. She loves her faith, witnesses her Greek Australian culture, and brings her love of music to all she does. She has a music career that has spanned decades. During her week with Allan and me in St. Augustine, she became my co-worker. She led several Shrine outreach programs during her visit. She had many occasions to perform including: at the St. Augustine Lighthouse day camp where the *Nisiotes* dancers of Holy Trinity, St. Augustine joined us in teaching Greek language and folk dance to 55 campers; at the Tarpon Grill after a meeting with Tina Bucuvalas, curator of Arts and Historical Resources for the City of Tarpon Springs; and at Holy Trinity Greek Night in St. Augustine.



Visiting the New Smyrna Historical Society Museum

With a letter of introduction from Consul General Christina Simantiraki of the Greek Consulate office in Melbourne, AU, we met with warm hospitality, Consul General Adamantia Klotsa of the Greek Consulate office in Tampa, FL, where the topics of Greeks abroad and Greek music through history were discussed. Ms. Klotsa and her assistant, Maria Georgopoulos, brought us to St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Tampa, for a tour of the Tampa Bay waterfront and for a delicious lunch.

We then went to Tarpon Springs for an interview with Father James Rousakis, dean of St. Nicholas Cathedral. Anthea also met ethnographic researcher, Dr. Tina Bucuvalas, curator of Tarpon Springs' Division of Arts and Historical Resources. She organized Anthea's meeting with bouzouki musician and teacher, Leonidas Zafiris. The evening rounded out with Anthea singing with Leonidas and his musicians. All interviews were transmitted to Mculture TV in Melbourne.

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Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos and the parish of Holy Trinity invited Ms. Sidiropoulos to the Greek Night Under the Stars glendi in St. Augustine. She played the guitar as she sang original songs in Greek and English. The next day she flew to Miami where she met with St. Photios Foundation trustee, Evan Mekras Scurtis. Evan's father of blessed memory, Father Demosthenes Mekras, served on the Archdiocesan



Saturday morning Music in the Chapel—Anthea leads the Greek School Students in song



At the Greek Consulate, Anthea Jewels Sidiropoulos, Maria Georgopoulos, and Consul General Adamantia Klotsa

Shrine Committee from 1967-1982. Evan's interview and time with Anthea insured that Florida's port cities are represented well in the research data for the Greeks Port to Port project.

Grants are being written for support of the 250th anniversary celebration of Greek Landing Day. The 2018 yearlong celebration of Greeks arriving in America will include a spring event called *Greek Concert in the Quarter*. We hope to have Anthea reunited with Leonidas Zafiris to highlight the musical richness of the Hellenic culture during that milestone event.

-Polly Hillier

Pan Orthodox Women's Retreat

Evgenia Mercado, Shrine Gift Shop Manager, organized an over-night Pan Orthodox Women's Retreat to the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Monastery in Reddick, FL. Fourteen women from St. Justin the Martyr, Holy Trinity, St. Augustine, and a pilgrim from San Francisco travelled there on the eve of the Feast of Holy Transfiguration. We attended five services on Friday and five on Saturday, with some at the Annunciation women's monastery and a vigil at Panaghia Vlahernon Monastery in Williston.



Pilgrims Eleni Angelopoulos and Catherine Arango



The time there was one of reflection and fellowship with many other pilgrims. We had time for confession and before leaving, sang the memorial hymn at the grave of Deacon Michael Koloniotis. We thank Gerontissa and Sister Akakia for their loving, warm hospitality. God grant Father Polycarpus and all the monks many years! With God's Grace, we will return.

Shrine Visitors



Mr. and Mrs. Dino and Marta Fiouris of Lyndhurst, NJ, visited the Shrine with their daughters Gabriella and Adrianna. They enjoyed seeing pictures of Father Aloupis of blessed memory who baptized Dino at the SS Nicholas, Constantine & Helen Church in Roseland, NJ.



Elizabeth Ferreira of New Smyrna, from a founding Minorcan family, visited in August with James Menzies. They are seen here alongside the museum placard with the name of Scotsman Archibald Menzies, a surprise to James.



Ms. Jamie Day of Palm Coast, granddaughter of Jere Masters, a Minorcan descendant, visited in August with Samuel Caraballo of Coney Island, New York. Pictured here with the artifacts uncovered during UF's archeological dig, led by Kathleen Deagan, at the Shrine.



Many teachers visited our Shrine this summer including Stella Kokolis and 50 members of the Syllogos Daskalon Tis Athinas (photo above) and members from the NEFL Teachers' Consortium.

Many students toured St. Photios this summer including students from St. John Academy of Ponte Vedra, FL, (pictured below) St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School in Coconut Grove, Miami, and the Hellenic Academy of Orlando.



St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Daytona, FL
2016 Beach Reach





Shrine docent, Jenny Harker, represented St. Photios at the Blessing of the Gates at the Tolomato Cemetery. Fr. Tom Willis of the Cathedral Basilica lead the solemn remembrance. On the right is Scott Thompson, a Flagler College alumni and an ornamental iron worker, who donated his labor and design work for the ornamental iron gate, after walking by and overhearing volunteers talking about the need for such a project.



St. Photios Friends - The Lemieux family



The children of Holy Trinity, St. Augustine, taught the campers Greek Dancing and then the children learned about the legacy of the Greek shrimp boat builders who came to St. Augustine in the early 1900's from Simi, Greece.



Professor Jackie Kramer with a student during the April 28th photo session at St. Photios for St. Augustine's Historic Places of Worship Field Workshop.



Shrine Director, Polly Hiller with Dorothy Zikos, Friend of St. Photios for over 3 decades!



Archdiocesan Council Meetings and Dinner in Pittsburgh - Maria Keritses, Vicki Pappas, Polly Hillier, and Dr. Ted Vlahos



Rev. Emmanuel Lillios and parishioners of Holy Trinity, Ambridge, PA

St. Augustine, FL -- St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine is located in the Colonial Quarter of St. Augustine, FL. It is a sacred and historical site built in memory of the 500 Greeks who came to America with the Turnbull expedition in 1768. The chapel has a reliquary with the bone fragments of 18 saints of the early Church in the narthex and the relics of 3 female saints in the altar. The chapel and museum occupy the historic Avero House – a 2-story structure that was built in the 1740's, razed and then reconstructed. In 1982, the Shrine opened with a clear mission to actively witness Orthodox Christianity, share the Hellenic culture and honor the memory of all immigrants who came to America in quest of a new life.

Contact Us

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Nick Moraitakis, Metropolitan Alexios, and Chancellor Father George Tsahakis at the Spring Metropolis of Atlanta Council Meeting

Completion of the St. Photios Shrine Hierarchs Exhibit

Archon Dr. Manuel N. and Mrs. Elaine Tissura and Archon Ted Pappas, Shrine architect, saw to fruition the design and installation of the new exhibit of the Shrine Hierarchs. The estate of Bishop John of Amorion underwrote the cost of the new permanent exhibit which contains the vestments of Archbishop Iakovos of America, Bishop John of Amorion, and Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos. The blessing of the exhibit took place during Greek Landing Day Celebrations on June 25.



Installation of the Three Cases



Archon Dr. Manuel N. Tissura with wife Elaine dress the exhibit



Rev. Dr. Nicholas Louh gives the first tour of the new exhibit at Greek Landing Day



Vestments of Bishop John of Amorion, Archbishop Iakovos of America and the priestly vestments of Bishop Dimitrios of Xanthos

Let Us Light-A-Candle for You

On Saturday, February 27, 1982, a tradition began. On the dedication day of our National Shrine, the beautiful St. Photios Chapel came alive with the glow of candles lit in memory of the "Protoporoi"- our parents, grandparents, and great grandparents who forged a new life in a strange land so that we might enjoy freedom and a better life.

Hundreds of candles were lit by the Greek Orthodox faithful present that day. Many however, were not able to be present for this historic event. They were able to participate in spirit. They submitted their names, the names of loved ones and the names of their ancestors for us to light a candle and offer up a prayer here in the chapel on their behalf..

This tradition continues today and supports the most precious ministry of our first national Shrine, the St. Photios Prayer Ministry. We invite you to share in this sacred tradition which began 34 years ago.



ST PHOTIOS

NATIONAL SHRINE CHURCH SUPPLIES



National Shrine Church Supplies (NSCS) is an element of the St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine that offers a large selection of candle sizes and types at low prices to churches across the country. NSCS also offers distinctive Epiphany Icon Holy Water Bottles, Candle Safety Cups, Self-Lighting Charcoal, a variety of incense and more!

National Shrine Church Supplies is overseen by the Shrine Office Manager, Gina Bingman. Gina has been the Shrine Office Manager since the summer of 2014. Previously, she worked as the Food and Beverage Outlet Manager at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine, FL. Gina ensures the fiscal integrity of the Shrine, reporting to Shrine Treasurer, Maria Carantzas, Esq. Gina is the success of National Shrine Church Supplies Program. She is the webmaster for the St. Photios website and online Gift Shop. Gina supervises the Shrine docents and Shrine volunteers. Her skills and energy have transported the Shrine to another level. She lives with her husband Brandon and their daughters Riley and Brooklyn in St. Augustine, where they are members of the Cathedral Basilica.

National Shrine Church Supplies offers competitive prices along with the opportunity to support our sacred and historic institution. All proceeds aid in preserving the St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine.

The Friends Membership Program of St. Photios National Shrine



Yes, I would like to contribute to the Friends Membership Program. Please continue my membership or enroll me in the Friends Program

Please make checks payable to the St. Photios National Shrine and mail to P.O. Box 1960, St. Augustine, FL 32085. All donations are tax-deductible.

<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributor	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank you to those who have already renewed and joined the 2016 Friends Program! Your donation supports the outreach and ministry of the St. Photios National Shrine.

Photograph Exhibit at St. Photios

now through June 30, 2017



With the assistance and permission from the Greek Ministry of Culture and the Greek National Tourist Organization, "Ancient Greek Origins" focuses on two of ancient Greece's most significant and enduring legacies: the origin of Western Civilization and the origin of the International Olympic Games.

Western Civilization traces its roots to the establishment of a democratic state that is cited in 500 BC when Cleisthenes led Athenian society. Political and philosophical thought expressed then not only shaped Hellenic society, but resonates throughout the world today.

We find written documentation of the first Olympics in 776 BC when a cook named Coroebus from Elis, Greece, won the stade, or 200-yard run. These games occurred every four years until 393 AD when Christian Emperor, Theodosius I, abolished the games because of their pagan influences.

Today, we celebrate those profound beginnings through the cameras of Peter Yalanis' company, *Dogs Up A Tree Photos*. He has captured the light and color of temples and venues within ancient Olympian valleys, while wowing us with unique perspectives from inside and atop the Athenian Parthenon and other Classical structures. This is the second showing for Mr. Yalanis at St. Photios. His traveling exhibit, *All Sides of the Parthenon*, ran from 2010-2011 in the Shrine special exhibit area.

You can find images from the "Ancient Greek Origins" exhibit at www.stphotos.com. They are for sale at various price points through the St. Photios Gift Shop.

Bringing the Shrine to Pittsburgh

May 11 - May 15, 2016

With the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, I visited three Pittsburgh parishes. Metropolis chancellor Father George Callos, Youth Director Rhea Ballis, and St. Photios Foundation Trustees, Archon Phillip Yamalis and Deacon Photios Dickos organized a meaningful and productive visit for me following the Archdiocesan Council meeting, which convened in Pittsburgh on May 13.

The Metropolis visit began at Holy Trinity in Ambridge where Father Emanuel and Presvytera Anna Lillios hosted a Shrine Presentation reception on Friday, May 13. Many Philoptochos members had visited the Shrine with their families over the past 3 decades and were eager to share their trip experience.

Saturday, I was honored to be a judge at the Metropolis St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival with friends from the past, Irene Maginas and Presvytera Lia Christulides. I shared the Shrine Essay Contest details with the youth during the Oratorical Festival Luncheon. Students took flyers back to their 7 individual parishes.

Sunday, I addressed the congregation after the Divine Liturgy at Holy Cross. I thank Father Michael and Presvytera Eleni Kallaur for their warm and loving hospitality. Members of Philoptochos had a question and answer time with me at the hospitality hour.

It was a joy to witness the grandnephews of Metropolitan Maximos dancing at the St. Nicholas Cathedral Church Festival and to reconnect with my schoolmate Father Chris Bender. I thank Rhea Ballis who provided transportation and hospitality throughout that evening. What a warm and loving reception, what a productive and Spirit filled trip to one of our Archdiocese's metropolises.

-Polly Hillier



Metropolitan Savas and Dr. Anton Vrame of the Dept. of Religious Education, event chair Archon Phillip Yamalis and speakers at the 2016 Metropolis Oratorical Festival at Holy Cross, Pittsburgh

We invite you to share in the future of the St. Photios National Shrine with a financial commitment to the witness and future of the Shrine.

We can be proud of the tremendous achievement the St. Photios Shrine represents, but even as the Shrine is dedicated to those first Greek people who came to America in search of freedom and a better life for their children, we must in remembering them, look to the future so that we may preserve their rich heritage and perpetuate their high ideals. To honor the Shrine's many faithful supporters, the St. Photios Foundation has set aside a special recognition wall, fittingly called **"The Wall of Tribute."**

We invite you to share in securing the future of the Shrine by making a financial commitment today. We invite you to add your name or the names of your loved ones to the list of special Shrine stewards by making a donation of \$2,000 or more.

For your generosity, we will inscribe the names of those you wish to honor in perpetuity, either living or in memory, on The Wall of Tribute.

Mr. Peter Charlay of Albany, NY participated in this program over 30 years ago. Today we remember him with gratitude for also bequeathing \$30,000 through his estate. *May his memory be eternal, may God give rest to the soul of this faithful steward of St. Photios.*



¹¹ **American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, New Smyrna Memorial and a Golf Tournament**



Father Theodore Stavrou with the faithful at the New Smyrna Odyssey Memorial, Riverside Park, New Smyrna Beach

AHEPANS are members of the largest Greek-American association and for over 80 years, they continue to be guided by its mission to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

There are many ways AHEPA funds the programs that support these ideals. Many AHEPA chapters have raised money through an annual golf tournament.

AHEPA Speedway Chapter #401 hosted its second annual New Smyrna Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 27th

at the Venetian Bay Golf Club. Earlier that day, we gathered at Riverside Park for the Colonists' Memorial at the Odyssey Memorial. Father Theodore Stavrou led the ecclesiastical services while Judge John Alexander conducted the civic ceremony. The national anthems were sung and then the mayoral proclamation was read, declaring August 27th as AHEPA DAY in New Smyrna.

The chairman of the event, Pete Klironomou presented Polly Hillier with a donation of \$500 for the Shrine and Judge Alexander awarded the Shrine with an Agape trophy. A moment of silence was spent in memory of St. Photios Essay benefactor, Kate D'Anna. Mrs. D'Anna fell asleep in the Lord July 25, 2016.



From left to right: Judge John Alexander, Consul General Klotza, and event chairman, Peter Klironomou

St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine Essay Contest

On behalf of the Essay Committee, Katherine P. Bacalis, chair, invites all teens, 13 to 19 years of age, to research and write on one of these two topics:

There are many historic and sacred sites throughout the world. What makes Saint Photios Greek Orthodox Shrine a historic and significant site for Greek Orthodox Christians?

Or

Every American (other than those born of a Native American father and mother) born in the United States, can trace their family's history to an ancestor who came to America from a foreign country. Compare and contrast your family's immigrant history with the immigrant history of the New Smyrna Colonists of 1768.

The Essay Committee accepts submissions throughout the year. The committee sends blind copies of the essays to three judges on January 3rd. Once the judges have ranked the essays, they are returned to the committee. The three highest ranked essays and certificates of Participation are sent to His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios.

At that time the results are posted.

Prizes are awarded to the top 3 ranking essays: (first place) \$500, (second place) \$250 and (third place) \$100.

The Essay Program is held in memory of Mrs. Kathie D'Anna and with the support of the AHEPA SPEEDWAY CHAPTER #410. All essays become property of St Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine. Please submit a cover page with your name, address, phone number, home parish where you worship and email address. **Deadline: December 31, 2016**



Save the Date

FEBRUARY 4TH - 6TH, 2017

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE ST. PHOTIOS GREEK ORTHODOX NATIONAL SHRINE

THE ST. PHOTIOS FOUNDATION INVITES YOU TO WELCOME ARCHBISHOP DEMETRIOS, GERON OF AMERICA, METROPOLITAN ALEXIOS OF ATLANTA, BISHOP DIMITRIOS OF XANTHOS, AND THE HONORABLE ADAMANTIA KLOTSA, CONSUL GENERAL OF GREECE, AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST. PHOTIOS GREEK ORTHODOX NATIONAL SHRINE.

Saturday, February 4th

ST. PHOTIOS FOUNDATION TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING
ST. PHOTIOS TRUSTEES AND SPOUSES DINNER
Keynote Speaker ~ The Honorable Adamantia Klotsa, Consul General of Greece

Sunday, February 5th

ECCLESIASTICAL SERVICES
ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE BANQUET AT THE CASA MONICA HOTEL
Keynote Speaker ~ His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America

Monday, February 6th

ECCLESIASTICAL SERVICES
WITH MEMORIAL RECEPTION



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