

**DECEMBER 22, 2018**

*We wish you  
Peace,  
Health and  
Happiness*



**The National Herald**

[www.thenationalherald.com](http://www.thenationalherald.com)

**THIS HOLIDAY INSERT WAS MADE POSSIBLE  
BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:**

Maria Allwin / The Behrakis Family Foundation  
George M. Logothetis, Libra Group / George Marcus  
Jim & Ted Pedas / Michael and Robin Psaros  
Dr. Spiro & Amalia Spireas, Sigmapharm Laboratories  
and the continuous support of the Greek-Americans whose  
advertisements appear in this special supplement.



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

*from  
Our Family to Yours*

**Atlantic Bank**  
A Division of New York Community Bank • Member FDIC

201841/169

## A Very Merry Christmas to All

By Eleni Sakellis

Another Christmas season is upon us and as we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, we should always remember the less fortunate. The gap between rich and poor grows every day, with homeless people begging in the streets of the richest country in the world, and those in power seem to only care about staying in power rather than finding solutions to the problems that plague society. And yet, the idea that the birth of one child in a manger about 2,000 years ago could have such a tremendous impact on the world still inspires awe. We need to remember how blessed we are to live in such enlightened times, even as Christians in other parts of the world continue to be persecuted for their beliefs as if the Roman Empire never stopped feeding them to the lions.

The true spirit of Christmas is love, the basis of the faith, but how many of us even know what the word means? Not the Hollywood version with two people running towards each other in slow motion, but the kind of love the martyrs demonstrated, the sacrifice of life and limb with no hope of anything in return except their eternal reward in heaven.

When we remove ourselves from the modern-day, commercialized Christmas and earthly preoccupations, what is left of our Christmas holiday spirit? Are we still stressed about shopping and what to get for everyone we know? Or do we take the time to check on our neighbor, make sure they haven't frozen to death sealed up in their homes in the dead of winter without human contact?

Is our philanthropy saved for the end of the year to get some tax deduction or because we actually care about helping people?

Certainly, online shopping has reduced some of the stress of running around to various stores trying to get the perfect gift, but then the packages might get stolen from your front stoop once they are delivered, so there are pros and cons to both methods.

Do the things actually make us happy at the end of the day?

Perhaps for a short time, but eventually the glow of the new toys does fade. It shouldn't surprise anyone when children end up playing with the box rather than the toy itself. Using one's imagination is always more fun.

Appreciating what we have is often a top indicator of happiness for the individual. So this holiday season, count your blessings before you count your presents and it might not matter as much if you didn't get exactly what you wanted for Christmas. To paraphrase the Rolling Stones, sometimes you get what you need. For some, that could be as simple as a kind word and a smile, an acknowledgment that in spite of these difficult times, we have not lost our common courtesy, our empathy, and our ability to cheer each other's spirits with a song and a joke on a long, cold winter's night.

We wish you all the best for the holidays, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## ROCKEFELLER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

---

### VIOS ADVISORS

*Structuring Wealth  
for Today's Luxury  
and Tomorrow's Security*

*Assisting investors in understanding  
and preserving their total generational wealth  
by providing highly personalized services  
to help clients define and achieve  
their long-term goals.*

*Happy Holidays  
From The Vios Advisors  
Family to Yours!*

*We wish you  
a Joyous Holiday Season  
and a Happy New Year*

**Nick and Michael Bapis**  
*Vios Advisors at Rockefeller Capital Management*  
801.736.9950 • 212.549.5488  
[Viosadvisors.com](http://Viosadvisors.com)





*Merry  
Christmas  
& Happy  
New Year!*

*Michael and Robin Psaros & Family*





**cme**

**BENEFITS CONSULTING**

*A Capital Management Enterprises Company*

CME BENEFITS CONSULTING

and

MANUEL N. STAMATAKIS

Chairman & CEO

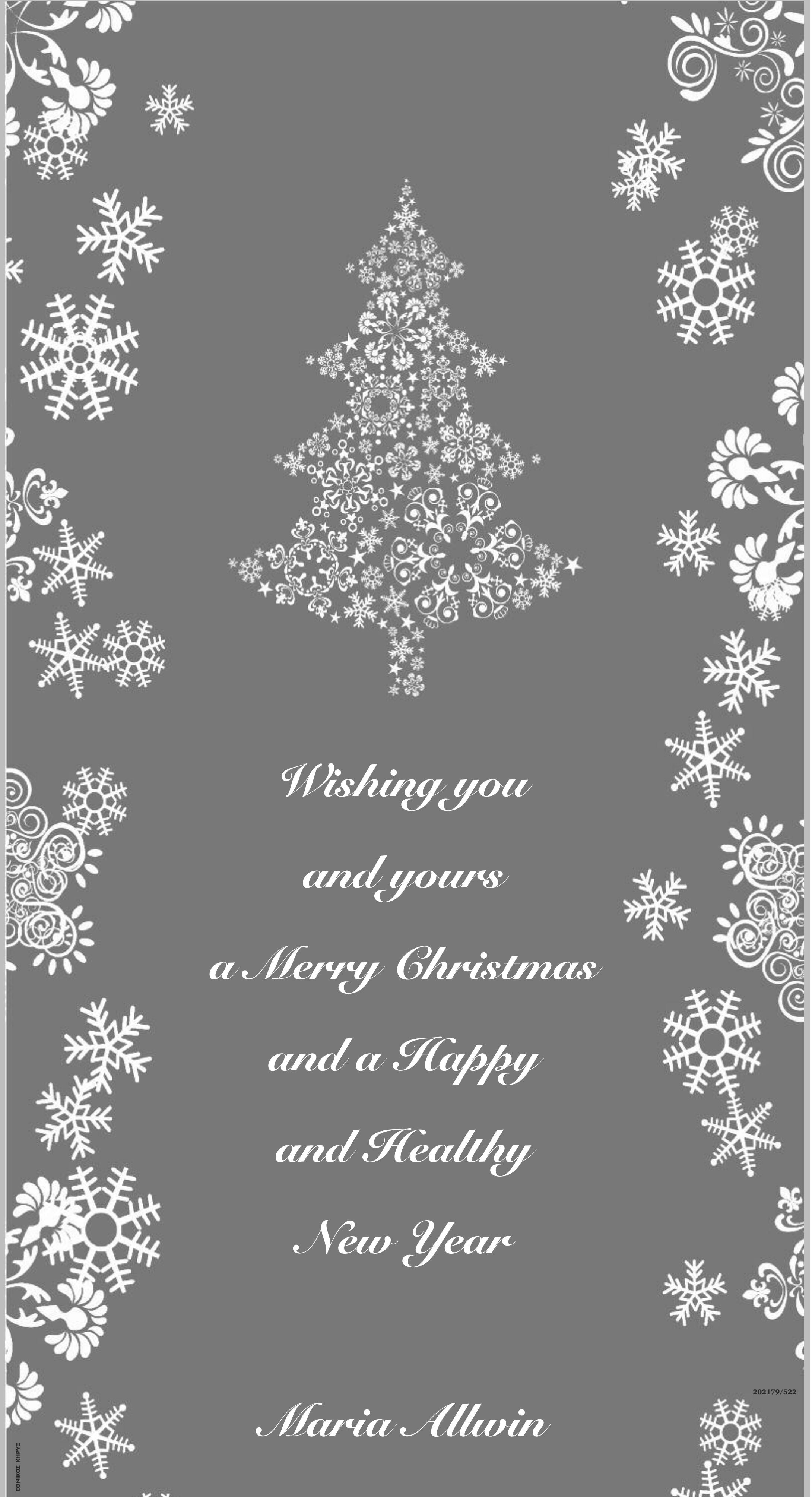
WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

&

A JOYOUS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO  
THE NATIONAL HERALD AND ALL OF OUR  
GREEK AMERICAN FRIENDS

Advanced Benefit Consulting Services

1111 West DeKalb Pike  
Wayne, PA 19087  
P: 610-265-9600  
W: [www.cme-group.com](http://www.cme-group.com)



*Wishing you  
and yours  
a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy  
and Healthy  
New Year*

*Maria Allwin*

# The Most Beautiful Christmas Window Displays in New York

By Vasilis Voultos

It's the most wonderful time of year, and we can admit that one of the most beautiful and fun things to do during the holiday season is to walk in Manhattan and admire the imaginatively decorated windows. It is one of the only free ways to celebrate the holidays in New York and draws crowds from all over the world to experience the festive season in the city.

The major department stores once again outdid themselves in terms of creativity and imagination this year, with both tourists and locals flocking to the city's major avenues to enjoy the holiday windows. The National Herald went for a walk in New York, picked out the most beautiful window displays, and presents the list to you.



window display at Bergdorf Goodman

## 1. BERGDORF GOODMAN 754 5TH AVENUE

These are the most beautiful window displays in the city. It will probably be difficult to find better on the entire planet. This year's theme is "Bergdorf Goodies." The windows are decked with giant candies, statues made out of cotton candy, gingerbread houses, and even more sweet treats.

## 2. TIFFANY & CO. 727 5TH AVENUE

The epic jeweler has inspired everything from books to movies and is an integral part of pop culture. Its windows do not disappoint this year. Their theme, "The Holidays Made by Tiffany," is presented as a tribute to Gene Moore, who decorated the shop's windows for 39 years until his death in 1998.

Bloomingdale's windows feature the Grinch

## 3. BLOOMINGDALE'S 1000 3RD AVENUE

The decorators at the iconic department store on Manhattan's East Side are approaching Christmas with a playful mood this year, letting the Grinch steal the show. Their theme is, of course, the title character of Dr. Seuss' The Grinch who Stole Christmas. Some of Bloomingdale's window displays are also interactive and great fun for young and old alike.

## 4. SAKS FIFTH AVENUE 611 5TH AVENUE

Saks department store has been creating dynamic window displays in the past few years with huge lightshows and music that could make Disneyland jealous. The theme this year is "Theater of Dreams." Also, each of their windows will show scenes from the "dream

of a consumer" as they pass through the store's luxury merchandise.

## 5. LOUIS VUITTON NEW YORK 1 EAST 57TH STREET

With "Trees of the World" as its theme, Louis Vuitton, pays tribute to trees all over the world, such as cacti, palm trees, and more, adorning them with fancy ornaments.

## 6. MACY'S 151 WEST 34TH STREET

There is probably not a person alive in New York during the Christmas season who can avoid Macy's department store. "Believe in the Wonder of Giving" is the theme and the department store brings to life the ideas of family, friendship, and the magic of the holidays



The window display at Saks Fifth Avenue.



## 7. BARNEY'S NEW YORK 660 MADISON AVENUE

One of the most interesting approaches of the year is that of Barney's department store. With "Make Change" and "Change Matters" they avoid showy images and are committed to the essential theme of charity. They invite you to share your vacation photos, until January 1st with the hashtag, #centiments @ barneysny and for each post, the Barney's New York Foundation will donate \$5 to Save the Children.

Clearly, there are a lot of window displays and endless journeys one can take in New York City. Do not forget, however, that the official opening of the festivities is marked by the lighting of the huge Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center on November 28 this year.

Diana Ross, Tony Bennett, Martina McBride, John Legend, Diana Krall and Pentatonix performed at the event. If you can stand the crowds, viewing the Rockefeller Center tree is free and open to the public.

The tree, which will remain lit and can be viewed until 9 PM on January 7, 2019, is a Norwegian fir, about twenty-two feet high and weighing twenty-two tons, from Wallkill, a town in upstate New York.

And formally, we wish you Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

PHOTOS: VASILIS VOULTOS



Macy's holiday window display.



Barney's New York.

Tiffany & Company's holiday window.



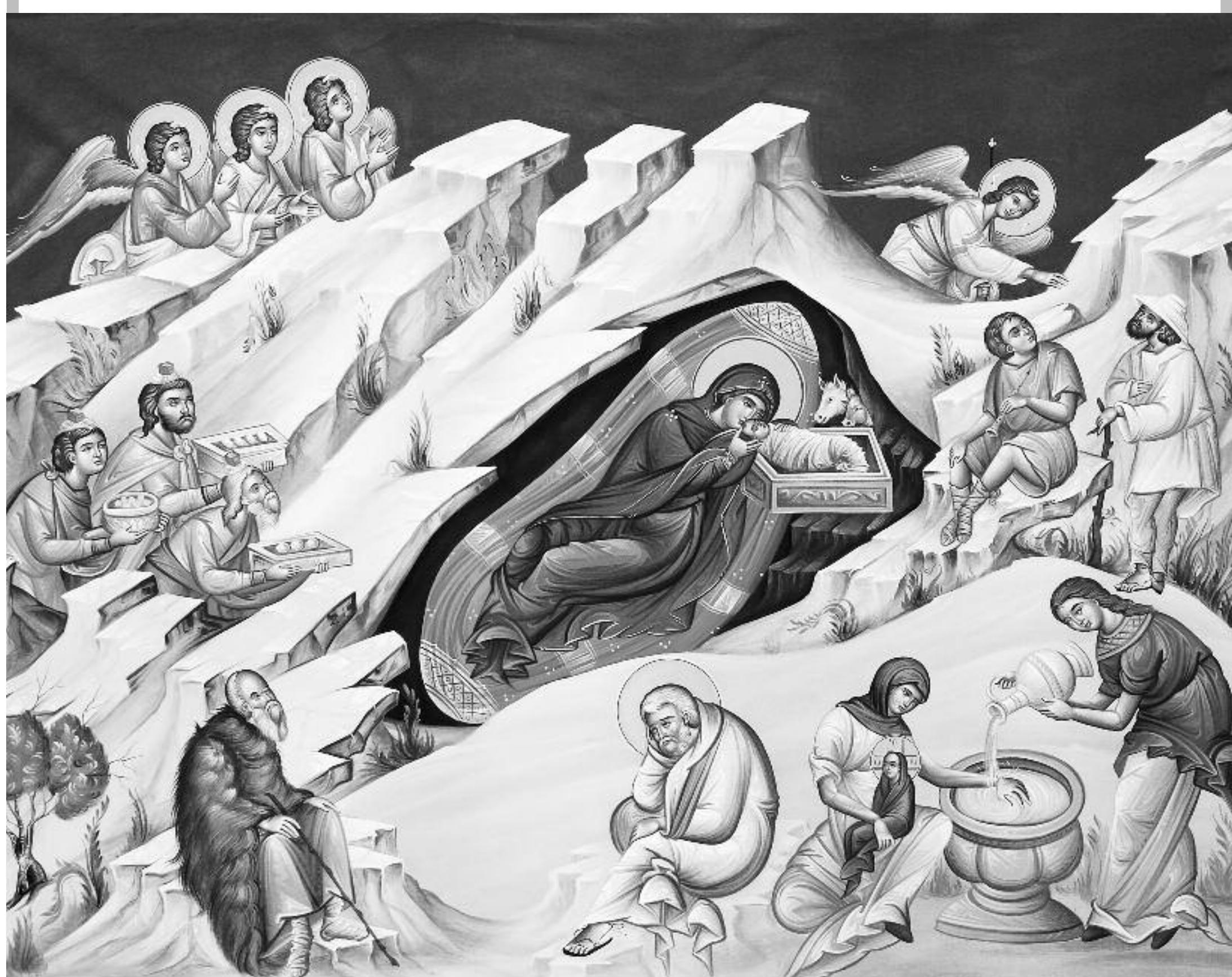
EONIKOS KHPY

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy  
and Healthy New Year*

The Sofia & Angelo K. Tsakopoulos Family  
Katina Tsakopoulos  
Ambassador Eleni & Markos Kounalakis  
Athena Tsakopoulos  
Brianne & Kyriakos Tsakopoulos  
Chrysa & George Demos  
Alexandra Tsakopoulos



# Peace On Earth



*Best wishes for a  
Joyous Christmas  
and a Healthy and  
Prosperous New Year!*



LEFT: The official White House Christmas tree in the Blue Room measures 18 feet tall and is dressed in over 500 feet of blue velvet ribbon embroidered in gold with each State and territory. CENTER: The Cross Hall at the White House decorated for Christmas. RIGHT: The Red Room theme celebrates America's Children.

## Christmas at the White House Features American Treasures Theme

TNH Staff

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The theme of this year's White House holiday decor, revealed by First Lady Melania Trump on November 26, is "American Treasures," The Associated Press reported. One especially striking element this year is the traditional White House gingerbread house, which is a massive, sugary replica of the entire National Mall. The Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the White House, all in gingerbread, are on display in the State Dining Room.

The pastry creation, featured at the unveiling of the White House holiday decorations on November 26, includes 225 pounds of dough, 25 pounds of chocolate, and 20 pounds of white icing.

White House pastry chefs have created gingerbread houses during the holidays since the early 1970s. The first one depicted a Christmas village. Another was a replica of President Bill Clinton's boyhood home in Arkansas.

First Lady Melania Trump designed this year's White House holiday decor and tweeted a video showing her walking amid the display. Decorations in the ornate East Room are meant to highlight the diversity and ingenuity of American architecture.

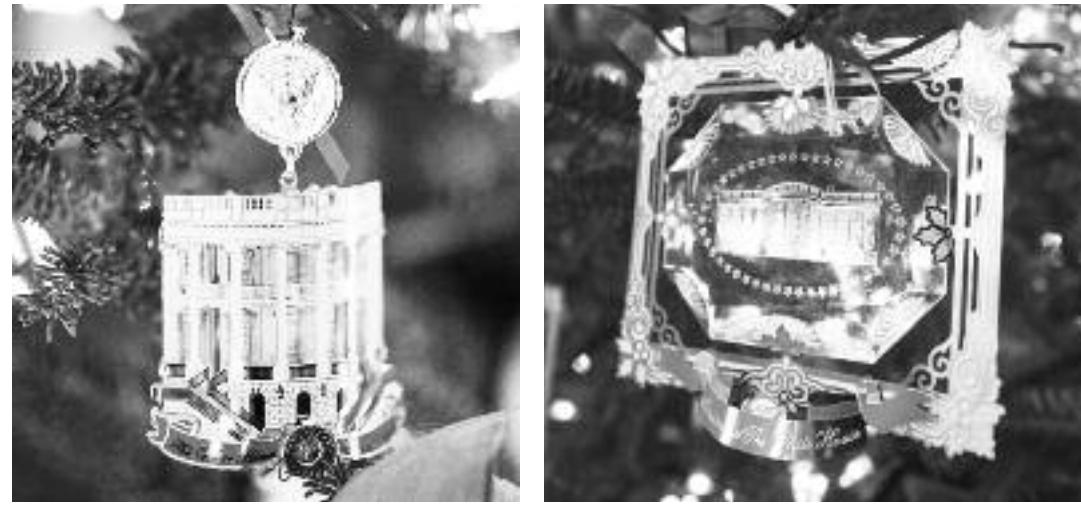
Four custom-made mantelpieces feature the skylines of New

York, St. Louis, Chicago, and San Francisco. Seventy-two handmade paper ornaments representing six regions across the nation adorn four 14-foot fir trees. In the library, trees are decorated with ornaments from all states and territories.

In the China Room there are three tables recreated from previous state dinners during the Theodore Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, and Trump administrations using china and glassware



ABOVE: A wreath made of "Be Best" pencils  
RIGHT: The Official 2018 White House Christmas Ornament  
FAR RIGHT: The First Family's official Christmas ornament.



from the White House permanent collection. A place card for President Donald Trump is next to one for "Mrs. Macron," French President Emmanuel Macron's wife, Brigitte.

Upstairs in the Green Room, there are decorations representing an American cornucopia with fruits, vegetables, and grains adorning a tree. The 18-foot official White House Christmas tree stands tall in the center of the Blue Room. The Fraser fir from North Carolina is decorated with more than 500 feet of blue velvet ribbon embroidered in gold with each state and territory.

The Red Room features ornaments and two wreaths made of pencils stamped with "Be Best," Mrs. Trump's youth initiative. Patriotism is on display in the Grand Foyer and Cross Hall. More than 14,000 red ornaments hang on the branches of 29 trees. Hidden projectors cast silhouettes of pine and other holiday greenery on the ceilings.

From their portraits on the walls of the corridor, Presidents John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, and Ronald Reagan gaze down on the holiday spectacle.

William C. Kallinikos  
Krissie Kallinikos, George Frangiadakis  
Funeral Directors  
the families and personnel



Merry Christmas  
Happy & Prosperous  
New Year

Kallinikos Funeral Home, Inc. - Towers Funeral Home, Inc.

2681 Long Beach Road, Oceanside, New York 11572 • Tel: (516) 764-5191 • Fax: (516) 766-9454

[www.Towersfuneralhomeny.com](http://www.Towersfuneralhomeny.com)

THE ONLY GREEK ORTHODOX FUNERAL HOME IN NASSAU COUNTY

We also serve the areas of Brooklyn, Queens and Suffolk County

At your service since 1994 - RESPECT AND DIGNITY



Best Wishes  
for  
Merry Christmas

*Let's not forget spiritual  
is the birth of Christ  
the Son of God.*

*Peace on Earth to all*

The BEHRAKIS Family

WE HONOR  
OUR PARENTS

*George & Constance  
(Hrisomalis) Karabots*

AND

*Jordan & Despina  
(Karatarios) Dikegoros*

on their venture to America a century ago

With Love,

*Nicholas & Athena  
Karabots*



Καλά Χριστούγεννα  
και ευτυχισμένο  
το Νέο Ετος

*From*

Athena & Nicholas  
Karabots

*And*

Krasi LLC at Karamoor  
Vineyard & Winery

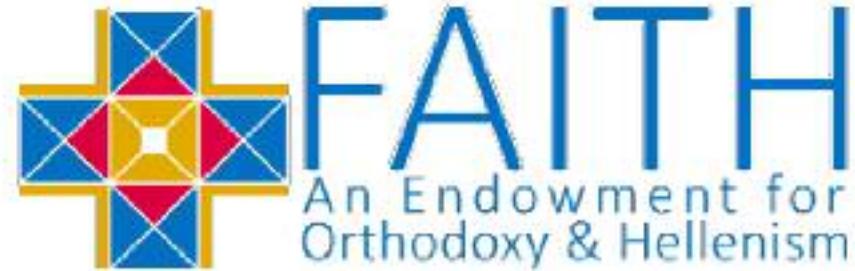


[www.karamoorwines.com](http://www.karamoorwines.com)

WISHING YOU  
*love, peace & joy*  
THIS CHRISTMAS AND IN THE NEW YEAR

FROM THE FOUNDERS OF FAITH

MR. & MRS. MERKOURIOS ANGELIADES • MRS. MARIA ALLWIN  
AMB. GEORGE L. ARGYROS • MR. GEORGE D. BEHRAKIS  
MR. NICHOLAS J. BOURAST† • MR. JOHN CALAMOS  
MR. JOHN A. CATSIMATIDIS • MR. JAMES CHANOS  
MR. GEORGE COUMANTAROS† • DR. ANDRE DIMITRIADIST†  
MR. PETER GEORGIOPoulos • MR. CONSTANTINE IORDANOU  
MRS. ELAINE JAHARIS • MRS. MARY JAHARIS  
MR. MICHAEL JAHARIST† • DR. STEVEN JAHARIS  
MR. MICHAEL S. JOHNSON • MR. PETER T. KIKIST†  
AMB. ELENI TSAKOPOULOS KOUNALAKIS  
MR. ANDREW N. LIVERIS • MR. GEORGE M. MARCUS  
MR. DENNIS MEHIEL • MR. C. DEAN METRÓPOULOS  
MR. JAMES H. MOSHOVITIS • MR. PANICOS PAPANICOLAOU  
MR. JOHN G. PAPPAJOHN • MR. JOHN A. PAYIAVLAS  
MR. MICHAEL PSAROS • MR. & MRS. GEORGE & CATHY SAKELLARIS  
MR. ALEXANDER G. SPANOST† • MR. DEAN SPANOS  
MR. MICHAEL SPANOS • MR. CHRISTOS SPYROPOULOS  
MR. KYRIAKOS TSAKOPOULOS • MR. GEORGE TSUNIS  
DR. P. ROY VAGELOS



PROMOTING HELLENISM, SUPPORTING THE GREEK ORTHODOX FAITH  
AND CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOR FUTURE

**GENERATIONS.** FAITH was founded in 2004 with the core mission to promote an understanding of the Greek Orthodox faith, Hellenism and excellence through a series of high quality innovative educational programs and cultural initiatives.

For college scholarship opportunities, visit [thefaithe ndowment.org](http://thefaithe ndowment.org).



THE HELLENIC INITIATIVE

# Keep Greece in your thoughts this Christmas

The Hellenic Initiative  
is wishing you  
a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.

[thehellenicinitiative.org/donate](http://thehellenicinitiative.org/donate)

## TRANSPARENCY – ACCOUNTABILITY – RESPONSIBILITY

Since 2012,  
The Hellenic Initiative has  
committed or distributed

**\$4.5 MILLION** in direct crisis relief  
**\$9 MILLION** in Economic and Entrepreneurial Development

The Hellenic Initiative (THI) is a global, nonprofit, secular institution mobilizing the Greek Diaspora and Philhellenic community to support sustainable economic recovery and renewal for Greece and its people. Our programs address crisis relief through strong nonprofit organizations. They also build capacity in a new generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs with skills and values to promote the long term growth of Hellas.

646-926-1972  
info@thehellenicinitiative.org  
135 East 57th Street, Floor 14  
New York, NY 10022  
[TheHellenicInitiative.org](http://TheHellenicInitiative.org)

## Savory and Sweet Favorites to Enjoy this Christmas

By Eleni Sakellis

A Greek Christmas is not complete without the many delicious traditional foods and pastries made with recipes passed down through the generations. From classics like moussaka and spanakopita to roasted meats and all the side dishes, the Greek Christmas table is usually crowded with holiday favorites. Of course, the dessert table always features kourabiedes and melomakarona. In the Peloponnese, and especially in Kalamata, dips are a staple of the dessert table at every Christmas feast. Whatever foods you decide to enjoy, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

### Marinated Roast Pork

**For the marinade:**

- 1 bottle white wine
- 1/2 cup white wine vinegar
- 3 medium onions, diced
- 4 garlic cloves, sliced
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup Greek extra virgin olive oil
- 2 bay leaves
- 2-4 sprigs fresh rosemary

**For the roast:**

- 1 pork shoulder bone-in, (about 5 lbs.)
- Greek extra virgin olive oil
- Greek sea salt
- Freshly ground pepper

In a large nonreactive bowl, whisk together the white wine, the vinegar, the onions, garlic, sugar, and olive oil for the marinade. Add the bay leaves, rosemary sprigs, and the pork shoulder.



Cover tightly with plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator to marinate for at least 4 hours and up to overnight, turning the meat over every so often to ensure the marinade is evenly distributed.

When ready to roast, remove the pork shoulder from the marinade and pat dry with paper towels. Season the pork generously with salt and freshly ground pepper and place in a large roasting pan.

Drizzle with olive oil and roast in a preheated 425-degree oven for 30 minutes, then reduce the temperature to 325 degrees and continue roasting the pork for about 3 hours or until tender.

If preferred, for a crisp look, brush the pork shoulder with honey and continue roasting for another 10 minutes.

While the pork shoulder is roasting, pour the marinade into a large deep pot or Dutch oven and bring to a boil over medium high heat. Lower the heat to medium and simmer until the marinade reduces by half. Strain the marinade and pour over the pork before lowering the oven temperature and continuing to roast.

Once the pork shoulder is done roasting, remove from the oven and allow it to rest 10 minutes before straining some of the pan juices to make the gravy. Remove some of the excess fat.

If preferred, transfer the roasted pork to a platter and allow it to rest and make the gravy directly in the roasting



pan.

Over medium heat, deglaze the pan with a wooden spoon or spatula and simmer until the juices are reduced slightly. Add a tablespoon of unbleached, all-purpose flour, if desired, to

thicken the gravy, stirring constantly to avoid lumps.

Pour into a gravy boat or directly over the roasted pork shoulder and serve immediately.

The gravy can also be made by straining the pan juices into

### MERRY CHRISTMAS HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Foundation for Modern Greek Studies

extends

warmest appreciation and respect  
to the Hellenic Community for its support



The president  
Lambros (AKA) Larry Stassinos  
and the Board of Directors  
wishes to all the diaspora

*Happy Holidays*

15150 Cleat Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170

201468/482



### POLES TUBLIN

POLES, TUBLIN, STRATAKIS & GONZALEZ, LLP

46 Trinity Place, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10006, Tel.: 212-943-0110

*Best Wishes  
for  
a Merry Christmas  
and  
a Happy New Year*

New York

New Jersey

[www.polestublin.com](http://www.polestublin.com)

*Providing legal services  
to the Greek American community since 1957*

Maritime • Real Estate • Corporate • Estates



A very blessed Christmas  
and a healthy, peaceful  
and prosperous  
New Year!

C.M.

A sincere Supporter  
of The National Herald





a saucepan and simmering over medium heat. Add flour to thicken while stirring constantly. Season with salt and pepper as needed. Serve with roasted or mashed potatoes, roasted pumpkin, or the following roasted vegetable recipe.

- 1/4 cup Greek extra virgin olive oil
- 2 large sprigs fresh rosemary or 1 tablespoon dry rosemary
- 1 teaspoon Greek sea salt
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Rinse the vegetables thoroughly in cool water, especially those that will not be peeled before cooking.

Chop the vegetables into similarly sized pieces to ensure that they cook at about the same rate.

Place the vegetables in a large roasting pan and toss with the olive oil, rosemary, salt and pepper until evenly coated.

Spread the vegetables out in the pan to form a single layer as much as possible and roast in the preheated oven for about an hour and fifteen minutes or until the vegetables are tender, stirring about half way through the cooking process. If some vegetables are roasting faster than others, remove them from the pan and continue cooking the rest of the vegetables.

Serve immediately.

#### Melomakarona

- 7 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup farina

Continued on page 16



Manatos & Manatos  
Founded in 1983  
[WWW.MANATOS.COM](http://WWW.MANATOS.COM)



A family involved in high-level U.S. policy development in Washington, D.C. for over 80 years.



[ One of Washington's most powerful lobbying firms -THE WASHINGTON POST ]



[ Lobbying royalty -US NEWS & WORLD REPORT ]

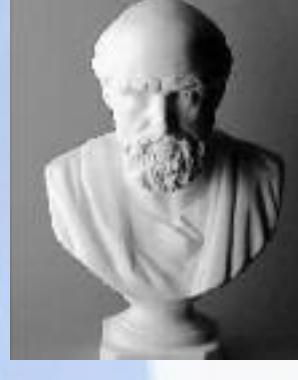


May we celebrate Christmas and the New Year by re-dedicating ourselves to the promotion and protection of Hellenic and Orthodox issues in 2019.

And a special thank you to The National Herald for all it does in this regard.

201116/180

## Spyros G.E. Mezitis, MD, PhD



wishes to all Hellenes and Philhellenes  
a Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy and Healthy New Year 2019

May the New Year bring strength to Hellenic Education, unity in the Greek American Lobby, and synergy among the Greek-American Societies!

For Greece, may the New Year bring hope, prosperity and social justice.

## Spyros G.E. Mezitis, MD, PhD

*Endocrinology, Diabetes and Thyroid Diseases*  
New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill-Cornell Medical Center  
Lenox Hill Hospital/Northwell Healthcare System

220 East 69th Street, New York, NY 10021

Tel: (212) 288-6661 • Fax: (212) 772-1210

\*\*\*\*\*

[www.drspyrosmezitis.com](http://www.drspyrosmezitis.com)

Email: [mezendo212@gmail.com](mailto:mezendo212@gmail.com)

**Books:** A great gift for the holidays

**The National Herald Bookstore**

(718) 784-5255  
[info@thenationalherald.com](mailto:info@thenationalherald.com)

200855191

Wishing you and your loved ones

**A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

Thank you for your continuous support!

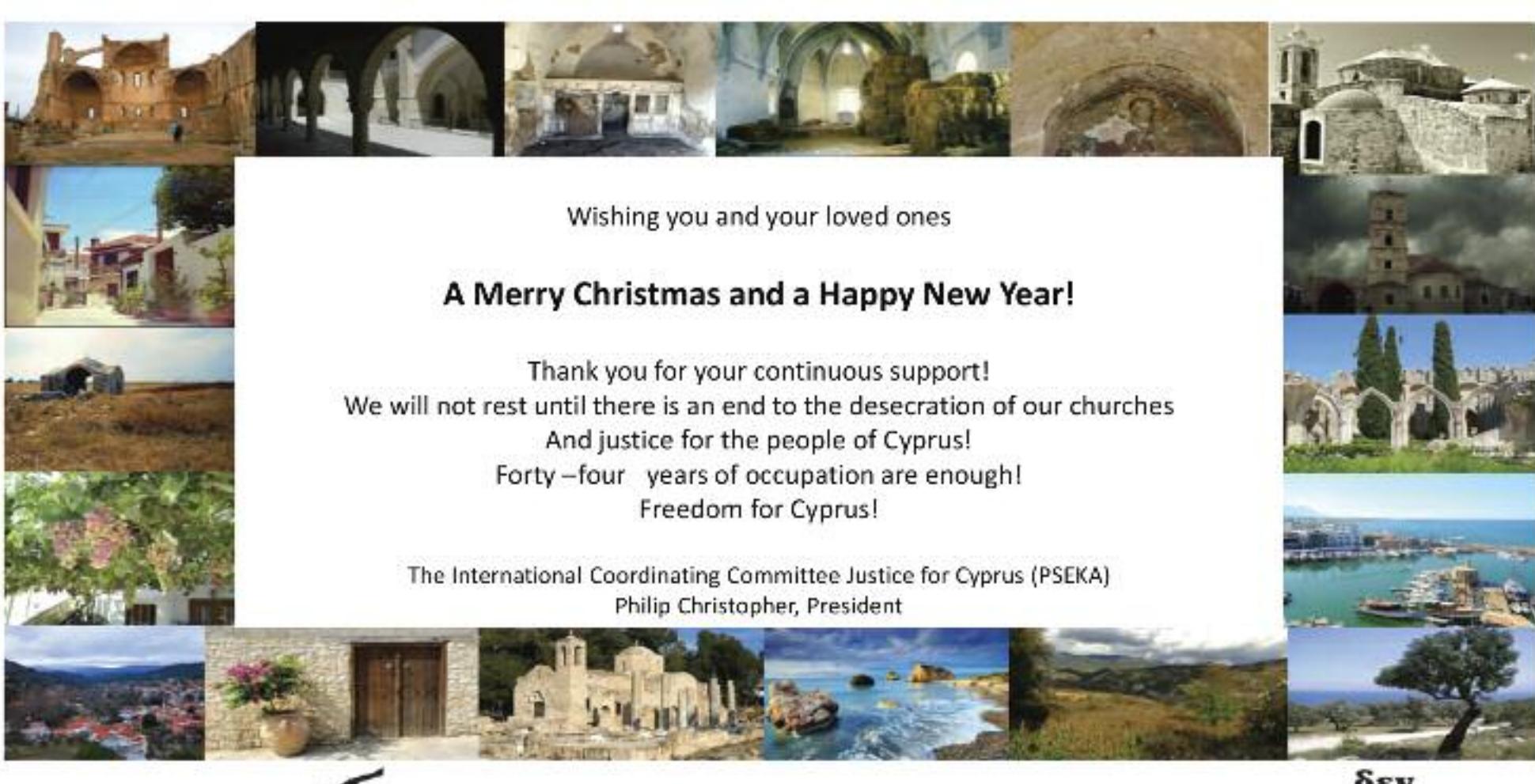
We will not rest until there is an end to the desecration of our churches

And justice for the people of Cyprus!

Forty-four years of occupation are enough!

Freedom for Cyprus!

The International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA)  
Philip Christopher, President



**44 YEARS OF OCCUPATION  
BY TURKEY**

δεν ξενω  
never forget

202063/262

## Savory and Sweet Favorites to Enjoy this Christmas

Continued from page 15

- 2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup olive oil
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon finely grated orange zest
- 1/4 cup cognac

**For the syrup:**

- 2 cups honey
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups water
- 1 cinnamon stick

**For topping:**

- 1 and 1/2 cups finely chopped walnuts
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, farina, baking powder, baking soda and 1/2 teaspoon of salt. In a separate bowl, whisk together the sugar, oil, juice, zest and cognac and add to the dry ingredients, mix until combined. Form the dough into ovals about two inches long. If desired, form the cookie with a walnut half in the center

or a combination of finely chopped walnuts and ground cinnamon as a filling. Place the cookies on a baking sheet and bake in a preheated 350-degree oven about 20 to 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Meanwhile, make the syrup. In a large saucepan, combine the honey, sugar, water and cinnamon stick, bring to a boil and simmer for 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Dip the just baked cookies into the syrup and allow them to absorb some of the liquid, but work quickly so they don't dissolve in the syrup. Cool the cookies completely and garnish with a sprinkle of chopped walnuts and a dash of ground cinnamon. Makes about 40-50 cookies.

### Diples

- 4 cups all-purpose, unbleached flour, plus more for rolling out
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 6 eggs

- 1/2 cup brandy
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 3 cups Greek honey
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 2 cups finely chopped walnuts
- Canola oil for frying
- Cinnamon

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, and salt. Make a well in the center and set aside. In a separate bowl, beat the eggs with the brandy and sugar. Add the egg mixture to the flour and stir together. Knead on a lightly floured work surface until the dough is smooth. If the dough is too sticky add a little more flour.

Cover the dough with plastic wrap and set aside to rest for about 15 minutes. Using about a quarter of the dough at a time, roll out to 1/8-inch thickness. With a pastry cutter or sharp knife, cut the dough into strips 1 1/4 inches wide and about 9 inches long for the rose shape or wider for the traditional folded shape. Continue with the remaining dough.



To fry, fill a large deep pot with canola oil or preferred oil for frying to about 3 inches deep. Heat until the oil is about 375 degrees F. Place the strips into the heated oil and using

two forks turn them so they form diples, or folds, like a rose. Fry until golden brown on all sides. Remove from oil with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels to absorb any excess

oil. Continue with the remaining dough until all are fried.

For the syrup, in a saucepan heat the honey and water up to a simmer, place the fried diples in for a minute or two then remove to a serving platter and sprinkle with the finely chopped walnuts and cinnamon. Serve immediately. If preferred, allow them to cool completely and store at room temperature for a week to ten days, though they will not be as crispy as on the first day, they will still be a tasty dessert.

To make diples in other shapes, use pizzelle irons. Dip the pizzelle iron mold into the batter and then place in the heated oil and fry until the cooked dough drops off the mold. Remove from the frying oil with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Wipe any excess oil from the mold with paper towels before dipping it into the batter again to ensure the cooked dough drops off properly when fried. Dip into honey syrup as above and top with walnuts and cinnamon. Serve immediately.

Kαλά Χριστούγεννα  
Καλή Χρονιά

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
from  
**Meraki**  
and Christos & Christine Zouzias

JEWELRY, ACCESSORIES, FOOD, HOUSEWARES, GIFTS & MORE  
ALL IMPORTED FROM GREECE

82 Main St. Cold Spring, NY • 845-666-7600 • [www.mymerakishop.com](http://www.mymerakishop.com)  
202289/200



**COMMUNITY**  
Credit Union

wishes  
**A Merry Christmas**

TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
Dr. Nicholas Sarantopoulos, President /CEO

LYNN: One Andrew Street, Lynn, MA 01901 • Tel.: (781) 598-0820  
PEABODY: 32 Central Street, Peabody, MA 01960 • Tel.: (978) 968-2222  
SOMERVILLE: 377 Summer Street, Davis Square, Somerville, MA 02144 • Tel.: (617) 539-8570  
ONLINE: [www.myccu.org](http://www.myccu.org)



3167/177

**corcoran**  
corcoran group real estate



**Froso Beys**  
Licensed Associate  
Real Estate Broker  
NRT's Top 1000  
Sales Associates since 2010

For all your Manhattan real estate needs

[fab@corcoran.com](mailto:fab@corcoran.com)  
660 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY10021  
d: 212.605.9325  
f: 212.415.6036  
m: 917.575.0658

We wish all our friends a Merry Christmas

Owned and operated by NRT Incorporated


**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE | AHI FOUNDATION  
1220 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036  
202.785.8430 | [Info@ahlworld.org](mailto:Info@ahlworld.org) | [www.ahlworld.org](http://www.ahlworld.org)

AHI is a non-profit Greek American public policy center and think tank that works to strengthen relations between the United States and Greece and Cyprus, and within the Greek American community.

Merry  
Christmas  
&  
Happy  
New Year

EISEMAN LEVINE LEHRHAUPT  
&  
KAKOYIANNIS, P.C.

805 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022  
Tel.: (212) 752-1000

Peter Kakoyiannis, Partner

# My Precious Olive Tree, the Gift that Does Indeed Keep on Giving

By Eleni Sakellis

Finding unique gift ideas during the holiday season can be difficult, especially when shopping for those who already have everything. Rather than the latest gadgets, surprise and delight your loved ones with a gift that truly gives back, helping Greece and the environment, through My Precious Olive Tree, an olive tree adoption program based in Ampelos, Greece. Founder Ioanna Kanellou spoke to The National Herald about the program.

Having studied Communication and Mass Media and worked for many years on television as a reporter and presenter, Kanellou decided to change careers and do something that could involve her children and also teach them something good.

When asked where the idea for My Precious Olive Tree came from, she told TNH, "The Greek crisis affected the media sector dramatically, so much so that I began thinking about an alter-

nate career path. It was during this time that I inherited an olive grove from my grandparents, who always said 'our land is blessed, we are privileged to produce our own olive oil.' With that in mind, I found myself often in the olive grove and mill, thinking about how to sustain and/or make our family grove flourish.

Kanellou continued, "For two years, I studied how to care for olive trees. I travelled and spoke with other farmers and olive oil experts and scientists. The olive oil we produced won a couple of major prizes, which inspired my desire to share our olive oil with the world. An olive tree adoption program was born out of this wish."

She told TNH that the program is growing when asked about its progress so far. "It is encouraging. The community of adoptive parents is growing daily, especially from Northern Europe. We are currently focused on promoting our olive tree adoption program in the U.K. and U.S.," Kanellou said.



NIKOS TILKERIDIS

said.

In 2017, My Precious Olive Tree olive oil travelled for the first time to New York, in order to participate in one of the most important olive oil competitions in the world, the prestigious New York International Olive

Oil Competition.

The international panel of experienced judges, awarded the extra virgin olive oils that stood out for their taste and flavor. My Precious Olive Tree was honored with the Gold Award 2017.

As noted on their website, "This great distinction rewarded our continuous effort and our passion to produce an excellent extra virgin olive oil. And above all, this award is a commitment for all of us working for My Precious Olive Tree, to maintain the

high quality standards for our olive oil."

Adopting an olive tree for yourself or to give as a gift is a simple process online and there are wonderful benefits, as well. My Precious Olive Tree adoptive parents receive an authentic Greek extra virgin olive oil of proven superior quality produced exclusively for them in a small family grove.

As the owner of an olive tree in Greece, those adopting know the exact origin of the olive oil they consume and experience the real benefits of a truly fresh, healthy, and flavorful olive oil, while supporting small farmers and helping them connect with international markets.

In this way, the program helps in keeping prosperous and sustainable small part of nature and those adopting an olive tree receive olive oil delivered to their doorstep with no extra delivery cost.

More info about My Precious Olive Tree is available online: [mypreciousolivetree.com](http://mypreciousolivetree.com).



**State Senator Leonidas  
and Dr. Donna Raptakis  
Alexandra and Nicholas  
wishes you a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year**

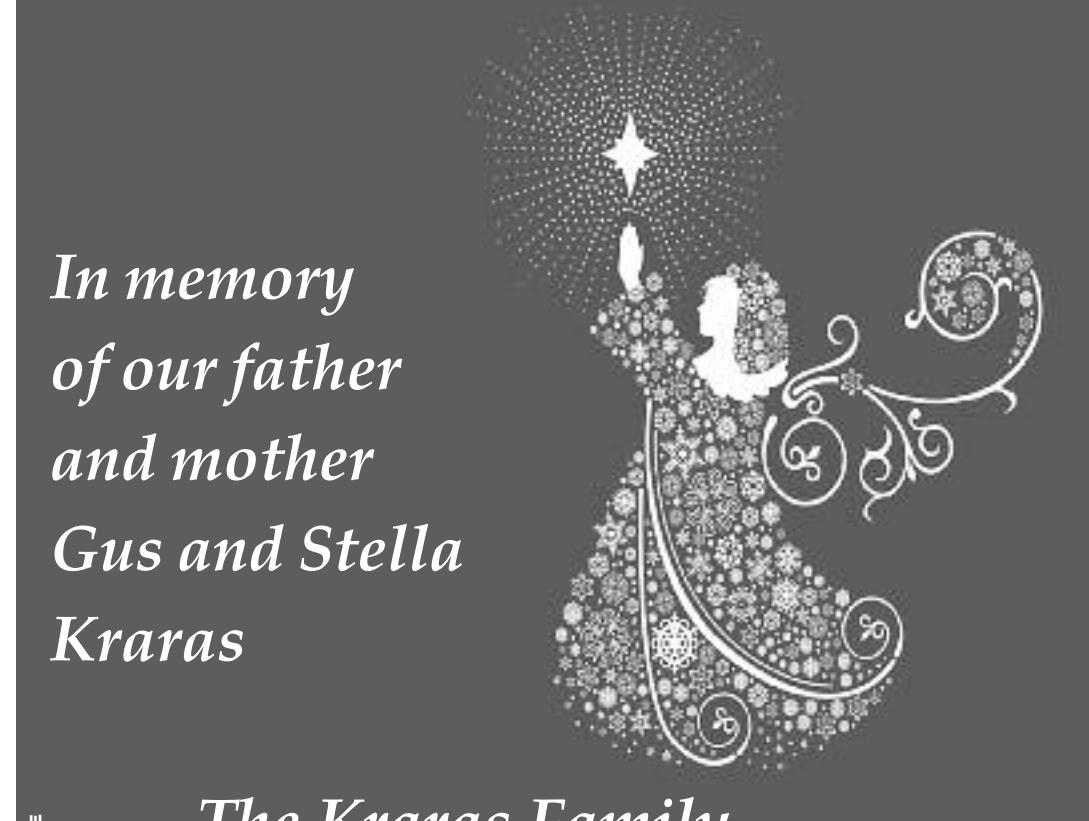


Committee on Judiciary  
Committee on Special Legislation  
and Veterans' Affairs

District # 33  
2080 Noosenck Hill Road  
Coventry, R.I. 02816  
Senraptakis@hotmail.com

Res. 401-397-2720  
Bus. 401-397-3344  
Fax. 401-397-6302  
State House 401-276-5567

3571/361



*In memory  
of our father  
and mother  
Gus and Stella  
Kraras*

**The Kraras Family  
Reading, PA**

3028/311

*Merry  
Christmas  
and  
a Happy  
New Year*

*from  
The SPANOS Family*



3240/298



**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN LAITY**

Serving the Orthodox Community as THE Independent Voice and Advocate For Renewal and Unity

*Orthodox Christianity in America cannot grow divided into separate boxes...*



*In America, God's Will for the Orthodox Church is a single, inclusive vehicle.*



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**  
Let us continue to pray for Orthodox Christian Unity in the United States.

Orthodox Christian Laity  
P.O. Box 6954  
West Palm Beach, FL 33405  
[www.ocl.org](http://www.ocl.org)

200107/355



DELIVERING ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY  
TO THE WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL &  
PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE



WISHING YOU A  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
AND A JOYOUS AND PROSPEROUS  
**NEW YEAR**

**DR. SOTIRIOS J. VAHAVIOLOS**  
FOUNDER and EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

## One Source for Asset Protection Solutions

Our Asset protection solutions enhance the ability of critical infrastructure to comply with safety and environmental regulations, extend their life, increase productivity, minimize repair costs, manage risk, and most importantly, avoid a catastrophic disaster.

- Oil and Gas • Power Generation and Transmission • Aerospace and Defense •
- Industrial • Infrastructure • Research and Engineering • Process Industries •



100+ Offices Worldwide



1.609.716.4000  
[mistrasgroup.com](http://mistrasgroup.com)

## Carnival of Love Christmas in Candyland at Central

By Eleni Sakellis

**ASTORIA** — The Carnival of Love Foundation (COLF) held its Christmas in Candyland party at Central Bar & Lounge in Astoria on December 13. Donations raised will support the opening of a Healing Arts Community Center for families living with autism and special needs.

Among those present were COLF Co-founder/Executive Director Dennisia Slabakis, COLF Parent Outreach Director Youla Efthimiou, Co-founder Maria Sakellis Giannikouras, Anastasia Theofanis, Stefano Nyktas, George Zapantis, COLF supporters, family, friends, and members of the community.

Olympia Mylonas who wrote the music and lyrics for the Carnival of Love song was also in attendance at the event.

Slabakis spoke to The National Herald at the event, noting that the Foundation was returning home at Central, where the first fundraiser was held ten years ago, and was grateful to have a safe space for such events in the community. After a few years with events held at differ-



Attendees lined up to purchase raffle tickets at the Carnival of Love Foundation Christmas in Candyland.

Carnival of Love Foundation's Christmas in Candyland was held at Central.



ent venues, "It's nice to come back where we started," she told TNH.

The attendees enjoyed savory appetizers from Zenon Taverna and delicious sweets and desserts in the colorful Candyland theme.

A wide variety of items were up for raffle including spa visits and other gifts. The event also offered shopping opportunities at booths displaying items includ-

ing jewelry, handbags, accessories, and Luv Michael Granola which is a new line of gluten-free and nut-free granola by a company that trains, educates, and employs people with Autism.

Luv Michael Granola is available in the fifteen Manhattan Fresh & Co. locations. Dr. Lisa Liberatore and Dr. Dimitri Kessaris helped create the food-based business so that their son,

Michael, and others with Autism would not be a burden on society or limited in their potential to lead happy and productive lives. They started Luv Michael under the parent company, Indigo Life, which represents a commitment for doing even more for the Autistic population.

COLF's mission is to enhance the mind, body and spirit of children and families affected by

autism and special needs, through access to alternative therapies, culturally-minded programs and services, educational resources, and unique healing experiences.

Through hosting educational workshops, community support programs for parents and siblings, and family recreational activities, COLF has made a tremendous impact in the lives

of many members of the community. The need for support for this worthy cause continues and those interested in helping the foundation achieve its goals can donate online.

Carnival of Love Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity, founded in 2008. More information about the Carnival of Love Foundation is available at: [www.carnivaloflove.org](http://www.carnivaloflove.org).

*Merry  
Christmas  
& Happy  
New Year*

[www.papadatos.com](http://www.papadatos.com)

3478/264

**HELLENIC RELIEF**

Το Έδρα της Ελληνικής Συμπαράστασης, Hellenic Relief Foundation, εύχεται στους ομογένεια καλές γιορτές και υπενθυμίζει ότι ωφέρονται ακόμα και τον άρτο των επιστότο. Το γιορτιό μας τραπέζι μας είναι πιο γεντό από βοδιάνοσα έσω και μια οικογένεια να έχει τα απαραίτητα για την εορταστική περίοδο.

**HELLENIC RELIEF FOUNDATION, INC.**  
Preserving Dignity in Crisis

[www.hellenicrelief.org](http://www.hellenicrelief.org)

201862/193

**Kyriakos A. Kirou, MD, DSc, FACP**  
**RHEUMATOLOGIST**

Director of Lupus Nephritis Program  
Hospital for Special Surgery  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Weill Medical College & Cornell University

*Best wished to the entire  
Greek American Community  
for a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy, Healty  
and Prosperous New Year*

**ME PANTEBOY**

535 E 70th Street, New York, NY 10021  
Tel: (212) 606-1728 ■ Fax: (212) 606-1012  
[www.hss.edu/physicians\\_kirou-kyriakos.asp](http://www.hss.edu/physicians_kirou-kyriakos.asp)

3478/242

**The Officers and Directors  
of  
HABA**  
**Hellenic American Association**  
for Professionals in Finance

*wishes everyone  
a Merry Christmas  
and all the Best  
in the Coming Year*

[www.haba.org](http://www.haba.org)

3159/307



**Dr. Ahmed  
Mohiuddin,  
MD, FACC**

**President and CEO,  
Medical Center of Boston  
International, Inc.**

## **TO ALL OF OUR GREEK FRIENDS IN AMERICA AND GREECE**

**WE WISH YOU A HEALTHY  
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS HOLIDAY SEASON**

**The Medical Center of Boston International, Inc.**

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞ

3039/528

**ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ  
ΚΑΙ ΕΥΤΥΧΙΣΜΕΝΟΣ  
Ο ΝΕΟΣ ΧΡΟΝΟΣ**

**Contact information:**

**Medical Center of Boston International, Inc., 411 Waverly Oaks Road, Suite 333, Waltham, MA 02452  
Tel.: (781) 894-8858 • Fax: (781) 894-8856**

## My First Christmas in Greece

By Constantine S. Sirigos

In the beginning, when someone moves to another country, even if one feels, like most Greek-Americans going to Greece, that he belongs, there is a heady mix of excitement over the new and nostalgia for the people, places and things left behind... "in the old country."

As if on cue, for a moment, in some spots in Athens Center that resemble downtowns everywhere, right around Thanksgiving (thankfully, not right after Halloween like some places in the States) Christmas items started popping up in stores.

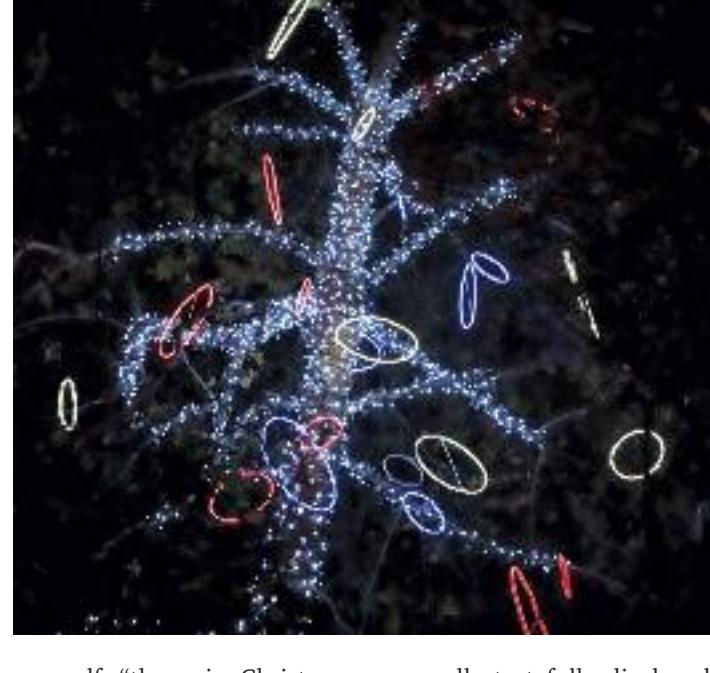
Twinkling lights and window displays try to entice passersby to start their holiday preparation early and soon one notices municipal employees stringing lights across streets, and trees that look more at home in northern climes start popping up everywhere.

It's at that moment that some expats – especially New Yorkers – remember that what they miss most about home is Christmas in Manhattan – when the usual, and usually frustrating hustle and bustle of one of the world's busiest cities becomes tolerable, presenting delightful scenes every few blocks or so.

But suddenly the tinge of sadness melts away and you say to



PHOTOS: EUROPRESS



Once again this year there is a modernistic but charming Christmas tree in Syntagma Square, across from the Greek Parliament.

A woman walks in front of trees decorated with Christmas lights at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens.



AP PHOTO/PETROS GIANNAKOURIS

yourself "there is Christmas here, too!"

And indeed there is. Globalization has spread the elements of Western Christmas everywhere. I have seen pictures of Santas in Turkey and the Middle East and holiday trees in India and China – and Athens and Thessaloniki are no exceptions. But there are delighting differences, rooted in age-old traditional Greek traditions. Like the big ships decorated with lights, probably inspired by St. Nicholas' role as the protector of sailors.

The holiday decorations are

generally tastefully displayed, and even in the few places where they are over-the-top, they are welcome reminders that even the excesses of home can be fun.

Walking in the Monastiraki district, I was startled by the cascades of lights and holiday figures in the distance that turned out to be the Little Kook café (it's only a bit "kooky" – Kook is a reference to chefs). Definitely check it out if you are here for the holidays, but expect to wait on line.

Athens is home to some of the nicest Christmas trees I have

ever seen – top of the list is the one in the elegant lobby of the legendary Grande Bretagne hotel on Syntagma Square, which by December 11 was sporting its own modern Christmas tree, surrounded by the golden glow of lights strung up on and between the square's permanent greenery.

The delightful nearby Public book store's façade was turned into a giant Christmas gift box by thousands of little lights and all the stores are decked out to some degree.

Santa Claus must be somewhere – I haven't found him yet,

but there is time. He probably relies on Amazon these days for his last minute orders. Perhaps he is in the grand Attica Department store, with ornate and fun holiday windows on the ground floor that prompt some to call it "the Macy's of Athens."

So the accoutrements are there to put you in the Christmas spirit, but even deep into December it takes some mental nudging, notwithstanding the "καλές γιορτές – happy holidays" have been sprinkling conversations for a couple of weeks.

"Sprinkling" is a key word – as in "rainy." While Athens can

be hit by snowfalls every few years, a White Christmas here is more like a Black Swan – if it comes no one expects it or sees it coming.

I have been told that Christmas in Greece is really a family affair and have seen only one reference to a Christmas tree lighting at a church. The tree and nativity display on the steps of the Municipal Theater of Piraeus are very nice and probably entailed a charming ceremony, but I cannot imagine that the Syntagma lighting or any other event even hints at the delicious madness of the Rockefeller Tree ceremony.

But a family-oriented holiday is fine. I anticipate that multiple dinner and coffee and dessert invitations will make it feel like an extended Thanksgiving – which will be beautiful even if the only white stuff I will see will be on the kourabiedes, which I love.

It is true, however, that by December 25 snow may top the mountains that ring the city, Penteli, Immitos, Parnitha, and Egaleo. During my visit in 2016, they made Attiki look like one giant kourabie. Καλά Χριστούγεννα!

## Christmas Events at the Acropolis Museum, December 22-January 5

TNH Staff

The Acropolis Museum welcomes its visitors during this year's festive season with imaginative children's workshops, gallery talks, Christmas and New Year's tunes and more surprises, December 22-January 5.

### CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP: WISHES AND SYMBOLS

Youngsters who visit the Museum during the festive season will have the opportunity to search for symbols of their memories and wishes, and then create festive cards for their families and for the Museum.

Program (held in Greek only): Thursday, Dec. 27, Friday, Dec. 28, Saturday, Dec. 29, Thursday, Jan. 3, Friday, Jan. 4, and Saturday, Jan. 5, 11 AM and 1 PM.

The workshop is designed for kids ages 6-11. Admission for children is free. A general admission fee is required for parents/chaperons. Telephone reservations required: 210 9000900/ ext. 414, from November 26-December 19 (every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, from 1-4 PM). Participation is limited to 25 children per session. Duration: 90 minutes.

### CHILDREN'S STORIES BY KARMEN ROUGGERI

Children will have the opportunity to listen to fascinating stories about gods and heroes by Karmen Rouggeri accompanied by a guitarist at the Museum second floor balcony overlooking the Archaic Gallery.

### GALLERY TALK: FROM THE FORBIDDEN CITY IMPERIAL APARTMENTS OF QIANLONG

Together with Archaeologist-Hosts, visitors will enjoy a rare exhibition on China's Emperor Qian-



long (1711-1799) with a first time presentation to the public of remarkable artifacts representing over 100 years of Chinese culture of the 18th century.

**English:** every Friday, 11 AM.

**Greek:** every Friday, 1 PM, every Saturday and Sunday, 11 AM and 1 PM. Extra talks on Monday, Dec. 24 and on Monday, Dec. 31, 11 AM.

The gallery talk is free of charge. Only the admission fee to the temporary exhibition is required

(3 euros). For registration, please refer to the Information Desk at the Museum entrance on the same day. Limited to 25 visitors per session. First come, first served. Duration: 60 minutes.

### MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM

On Sunday, Dec. 23, at 12 noon, the Acropolis Museum will host the Chronos music ensemble of the Athens State Orchestra for a music concert on the Museum ground floor, including carols and traditional, world-renowned Christmas melodies.

On Sunday, Dec. 30, at 12 noon, the Acropolis Museum will host the well-known band The Swingin' Cats for a New Year's and swing music concert on the Museum ground floor.



floor. More information about Christmas gifts is available in the Acropolis Museum shop.

### FESTIVE MEALS AND CHRISTMAS JAZZ AT THE RESTAURANT

During the festive season, the Museum's second floor restaurant will serve traditional holiday meals and sweets. Christmas jazz nights also take place every Friday night featuring famous jazz music ensembles. For reservations, please contact the restaurant during Museum hours: +30 210 9000915.

More information is available online: acropolis-museum.gr.



## Chicago's Greektown Celebrates Christmas Season

By Anthe Mitrakos

**CHICAGO** – The weather may be nippy, but that didn't stop members of the city's Greek-American community and friends from gathering for festivities on S. Halsted Street.



Children sang traditional "kalanta" Christmas carols in anticipation of the lighting of the Greektown Christmas tree.

"We're working very hard...to preserve the cultural depth here in Greektown and we are succeeding with the museum and other activities, but this is an activity that has gained nationwide acclaim," said Dean T. Maragos, advisor to the Greektown Special Service Area.

Fathers Apostolos Georgiadis of St. Demetrios in Chicago and Chrysanthos Kerkereis of St. George in Chicago commenced the ceremony with prayer. Students of Solon and St. George Greek schools then joined pianist Marika Pantoni's tunes, singing traditional Greek carols, starting off with "Kalin esperan arxontes – Good evening lords and ladies."

"Kala Christougenna" said

27th Ward Alderman Walter Burnett Jr. "This is the season of remembering to give, to help, and to love people, and we should not remember that only this season, but throughout the year," he said.

The crowd counted down to the lighting of the 2018 Greek-

Celebrating the holiday season in Greektown, The National Hellenic Museum hosted Greek dance performances and children's activities. Meanwhile, situated under the Greektown temple structures, with a breathtaking backdrop of Chicago city's skyline, chil-

town Christmas tree, which took a moment to glow, prompting the comment "it's running on Greek time." The tree stands next to a hand-crafted "karavaki" Greek Christmas boat.

Honorable guests included longtime Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, who came to cheer on the children and wish Greektown a Merry Christmas. "It's an honor for me to be here in Greektown where I normally get a lot of liquid and gastronomical appeasement," White said. "Behind me are these wonderful young people who are going to help run this great country of ours. It's important for us to do all we can to make sure that they become properly educated so that they can go off into the world and make this world a better place for all of us," he said.

The carolers and their fans continued their night walking up S. Halsted Street, spreading holiday cheer to local businesses including the Ambassador Public House and Artopolis Bakery Cafe and Agora.

Fine Hand Made Instruments From Greece

## Bouzouki World

Bouzouki, Tsoura, Baglama, Laouto

Accessories, Cases, Strings, Instruction Books and CD's  
World Wide Sales Since 1998

Paul "Pavlos" Kakouris Sacramento, CA

### WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS ARE SAYING:



"Today we picked up the bouzouki and it is beyond our expectations!"

"The craftsmanship is amazing and the sound is equally phenomenal."

"What an incredible instrument. I love it! I've never played or sounded better."

PHOTOS WITH PRICES AT  
[WWW.BOUZOUKI.ORG](http://WWW.BOUZOUKI.ORG)

EMAIL pavlos120@gmail.com  
CALL 408-799-7385

202378/166

**District 25 - HELAS**  
**Chapter 17 - Hephaestus**  
**Vari - Voula - Vouliagmeni**

The President, the Board of Directors and the members of the AHEPA Chapter HJ - 17 "Hephaestus" Vari - Voula - Vouliagmeni Attica (D-25),  
wish  
to All Members of the AHEPA Family,  
a Merry Christmas and  
a Happy and Healthy New Year

The President  
**Panagiotis Rizopoulos**  
District Secretary

The Secretary  
**George Polychronis**

53 Leonidou street, 166 73, Voula, Attica, Hellas  
Tel: (01130) 210.3704.183 & (01130) 6980.310.162  
e-mail: pdrizopoulos@yahoo.gr

**AHEPA HELLAS**  
**District 25**

**AHEPA HELLAS**  
wishes  
all Members of the AHEPA family  
and all Greeks around the World  
**a Merry Christmas**  
**and Happy New Year!**

Efstathios Kefalidis  
District Governor

Konstantinos Varsamis  
Lt. District Governor

Konstantinos Kozyrakis  
District Treasurer

Christos Karapiperis  
VP Education

Dionisios Vovos  
VP Civic Responsibility

Konstantinos Bougioukas  
Athletic Director

Dimitrios Tragias  
District Warden

Panagiotis Rizopoulos  
District Secretary

Vasilios Grekas  
VP Hellenism

Antonios Giannikouris  
VP Philanthropy

Dimitrios Stigkas  
VP Family & Ind. Exc.

Dimitrios Tsopelas  
District Marshal

Vasilios Petkidis  
DL Member PDG

Wishing all our friends  
a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy  
New Year  
2019

200116/184



## VATOPEDI MONASTERY CHRISTMAS

With the advent of the Christmas holiday,  
“from the depth of our heart and soul” let us cry out  
“together with all of the saints” a doxology  
to the Triadic God, since once again, this year He grants us worthy  
within our Orthodox Church to live the great Mystery  
of the Divine Incarnation “revealed to mankind”.

These past days we fondly remembered  
our visit to the United States and our interaction  
among the Greek-American community where we were pleased  
to see to religious and ethnic traditions lovingly maintained.

We send patristic wishes with the turn of the 2019 New Year  
that our only concern may become how  
the Incarnated Divine Logos will dwell within us through  
the Grace that we receive with the holy Mysteries. Amen.

*Wishing  
All A Very  
MERRY  
CHRISTMAS*



**JOHN, MARGO  
ANDREA & JOHN JR.  
CATSIMATIDIS**



*The Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, George E. Loucas, on behalf of his entire Supreme Lodge and all of the officers and members of the Order of AHEPA, wishes everyone*

# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Supreme Vice President Jimmy Kokotas  
President of AHEPA Canada Christos Argiriou  
Supreme Secretary George Horiates  
Supreme Treasurer George S. Booras  
Supreme Counselor Louis G. Atsaves  
Supreme Athletic Director Chris G. Atsaves  
Sons of Pericles National Advisor Sandy J. Papadopoulos  
Supreme Governor Region 1 Peter J. Nassos

Supreme Governor Region 2 George V. Papaspyrou  
Supreme Governor Region 3 George Karatzia  
Supreme Governor Region 4 Jack Isaac  
Supreme Governor Region 5 Craig A. Theros  
Supreme Governor Region 6 Peter G. Lekas  
Supreme Governor Region 7 Nicholas C. Dixie  
Supreme Governor Region 8 Wynn T.D. Stortos  
Supreme Governor Region 10 Phanos L. Pitiris

AHEPA, since 1922, promoting the ancient Hellenic ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility and Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism.

Often imitated, never duplicated.

Rediscover your Hellenic Heritage, join today at [www.ahepa.org](http://www.ahepa.org) or call us at 202-232-6300

## Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

27 Forsyth St., New York, NY 10002 • Tel.: (212) 226-0499  
[www.stbarbaragoc.com](http://www.stbarbaragoc.com)



*Best wishes to  
our members,  
supporters  
and to  
the Greek  
American  
Community*

*Merry Christmas  
Happy Healthy  
and Prosperous New Year*

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞΗ

3647/339



## SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817 • Tel.: (301) 469-7990



Father Dimitrios Antokas  
Presiding Priest,  
the Parish President Stephen Vlahos,  
the Board Members  
and the entire community  
wish you all  
a Blessed Christmas and  
a Happy and Healthy New Year

3160/359

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞΗ

## GREEKTOWN TAVERNA

150 North Nova Road  
Ormond Beach, FL 32174, Tel: 386-944-9526  
[www.greektowntaverna.com](http://www.greektowntaverna.com)

BEST WISHES  
FOR BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
AND A JOYOUS NEW YEAR WITH HEALTH

Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner



ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞΗ

202361/116

## Law Offices of MARY MIHALAKOS MARTUSCELLO



### PERSONAL INJURY

Auto Accidents  
Slip / Trip and Falls

### DWIs

Drug & Alcohol  
Related Crimes

We speak Greek  
Ομιλούμε Ελληνικά

Best wishes for  
a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

Xρόνια Χαρούμενα

Call to make an appointment for a Free Consultation

**(212) 267-7944**

300 East 30th Street, Suite 200, New York, NY 10016

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞΗ

202222/332

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΗΡΥΞΗ

# Christ is Born Today – and its Meaning for Us Today

By Theodore Kalmoukos

The hymn of the first kathavasia of the Christmas Feast is very clear when it uses the present tense "Christ is born" today. In our own time. Today; not yesterday; and not 2018 years ago; but today.

This today captures and defines the time and the space of December of 2018 and the place where we live and turns it into an eternal present in which the Logos-God manifests His presence as a human person. He who is incarnated today is none other than the One of the Trinity who becomes "God walking in human flesh" according to the patristic saying.

Christ is born today in the Church, in which we the members that constitute it become doxological beings and we touch the boundaries of "another form," of being, the heavenly one, because we desire to be lifted little higher, to heaven's heights. After all, He descended that we might ascend. He became poor in order for us to become rich, through His sacrificial acceptance of a life of penury.

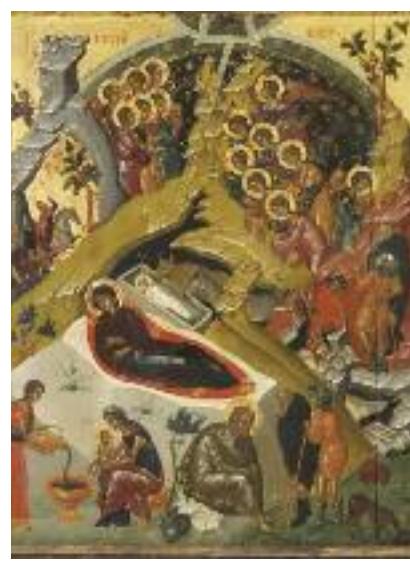
In the Church we communicate Christ, and with Christ, and with one another in an ecclesiastical but personal way, and we march as a Church on a path toward a meeting with the Savior

Christ, our Infant God. The "Being" of the Church is identified with the "Being" of Christ and thus through our communication with Him we acquire the mind and heart of Christ.

And this happens here and now – today, not in that distant time in the Roman province of Judea. In Church, he understands who has a heart because into its architecturally sacred space comes to be Incarnated, Christ, the One of the Trinity.

Let us not deceive ourselves – without Christ our life remains an unexplained biological phenomenon from our birth to our death. Basically what we call life is an enigma even to experts of biology and medicine. We shouldn't forget that without Christ our life continues to be a paradox and our death which is our common tragic reality an inconceivable paralogism.

With the Incarnation of the Logos of God everything changes form and prospect. And please remember this transformation is taking place today in the year 2018. It doesn't matter if I sin once, twice, ten times, a thousand times as long as I know that today salvation is born, Christ, Who came for the sinners and the damned because He loved us very much. That is why He became "a street God". He identified Himself with



Nativity scene (Cretan School, 2nd half of the 15th c., unknown artist).

His "least brothers" the hungry, the homeless, the victimized ones, the poor and the wounded from injustice.

Truly, what are we celebrating on Christmas and how are we celebrating it? What do we really understand when we say that we celebrate the birth of Christ, Christmas? Above and beyond

all those colorful lights, ornaments, and jewels, the many sermons and sermonettes about the "sweet Jesus" for the satisfaction of our sentimentalities, the Orthodox Faith and Tradition presents a different ecclesial experience and proposition, or if you prefer, a different perspective.

The Orthodox Christian sees in Christmas the freedom of the existence of God from every necessity. In other words He is God, but He is miraculously also free from His Divinity – or rather, He emptied (kenosis) himself of his divinity so he could come to us, having the freedom to exist in every way as human. In a more simple way we could say that Christ remained who He Was, God, and He became whom He was not, human, but without sin, and without ceasing to be God.

We as an Ecclesiastical Body do something very serious, we live existentially this "emptying" – the kenosis of God in the infant of Bethlehem who assumes flesh like ours. That is why we identify with Him, because He first identified with us in way of "kenotic" love and impoverishment.

All these things are taking place today, because Christ is born today in the timeless time of the Church. We are talking about some serious and difficult

things here. We live the incarnate Truth, the hypostasized eternity because God through His Incarnation personifies eternity. This eternity is not a "something," it is not a "situation" – with the incarnation eternity is somebody, and that Somebody is Christ.

The Incarnation of God divided human history into two, before and after Christ, and it continues to do that today.

The best way to participate and experience the great mystery of Christmas is to partake in the Eucharistic Supper of Christ and thus to become Christ-like by acquiring the mind and the heart of Christ, and that can be done not theoretically and religiously but existentially in the Church and in our daily lives through the Church. Let me remind here that there is a difference between religion and the Church. In Orthodoxy there is only the Christ of the Church, who is her Founder and Bridegroom. The Christ of abstract concepts and formulations or of religious sentimental preaching have nothing to do with the Christ of the Church and the salvation of human persons from the torture of corruption and death.

Christmas today and for all time should mean our being called and invited to the discovery of the essentials of life.



**Gus Trataros Realtor**  
561.716.0653/305.285.7272  
grtrataros@skylinerealtyint.com

**Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year!**



Your connection to South Florida Specializing in Commercial & Residential Real Estate Brokerage From Miami To Palm Beach

**SKYLINE REALTY INTERNATIONAL**  
IT WOULDN'T BE MIAMI WITHOUT ITS SKYLINE

800 Brickell Ave, Suite 201, Miami, FL 33131  
www.skylinerealtyinternational.com • EMAIL: info@skylinerealtyint.com

202287/455



**GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF GREATER SALT LAKE**

Holy Trinity Cathedral  
279 South 300 West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101  
Telephone: (801)328-9681 Fax: (801)328-9688  
Office Email: [orthodoxy3@gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxy3@gmail.com)

Prophet Elias Church  
5335 Highland Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84117  
Telephone: (801)277-2693 Fax: (801)424-1296  
Parish Website: [www.gosclc.org](http://www.gosclc.org)

V. Rev. Archimandrite George Nikas, Dean - Rev. Protopresbyter Mario Giannopoulos, Parish Priest



The Very Reverend Archimandrite George Nikas  
The Reverend Protopresbyter Mario Giannopoulos  
The Members of the Parish Council, Philoptochos, Youth and  
All Parish Ministries & Organizations of the

**GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OF GREATER SALT LAKE**  
(Holy Trinity G.O. Cathedral/Prophet Elias G.O. Church)

Joyously extend Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes  
to our Omogeneia praying for all of our loving Lord's  
abundant blessings as we celebrate His glorious Nativity.

**ΚΑΛΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΑ**

**και**

**ΕΥΤΥΧΙΣΜΕΝΟ**

**ΤΟ ΝΕΟ ΕΤΟΣ 2019!!!**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**&**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!!!**

202129/345

**Best Wishes  
for a Happy and Healthy  
Holiday Season And Prosperous 2019**

**From the  
Pancretan Association of America  
Board of Directors  
President Eleftherios Dramitinos**

**[www.pancretan.org](http://www.pancretan.org)**

3637/557

**Best wishes for a Merry Christmas,  
Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!**



**Capital Link**

Excellence in Investor Relations  
Strategic Advisory  
Financial Communications  
Investment Conferences in New York –  
London – Athens – Limassol – Oslo – Shanghai – Singapore  
**Nicolas Bornozis - President Olga Bornozi - Managing Director**  
230 Park Ave., Suite 1536, New York, NY 10169  
Tel: 212-661-7566 | Fax: 212-661-7526  
[www.capitallink.com](http://www.capitallink.com) & [www.capitallinkshipping.com](http://www.capitallinkshipping.com)

200581/556

**The National Herald Subscription**  
A great gift for the holidays

(718) 784-5255  
[subscriptions@thenationalherald.com](mailto:subscriptions@thenationalherald.com)



**Extending Our Warm Wishes to**

***The National Herald***

**And All Our  
Greek American Friends**

**Merry Christmas**

**May You Welcome a Joyous,  
Healthy & Prosperous New Year**

**LOUNTZIS ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC**

**Paul Lountzis • Michael Auman • Tina Schaeffer**

- Capital Preservation
- Long-Term Growth
- Field-Based Research
- Risk Management

60 Commerce Drive • Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610  
260 Madison Avenue • 8<sup>th</sup> Floor • New York, New York 10016

610.375.2585

[www.lountzis.com](http://www.lountzis.com)

202060/265



*Drs. Spiro & Amalia Spireas  
and  
Sigmapharm Laboratories*

*May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours!*

*Best Wishes for  
A very Merry Christmas!*



*Innovative Pharmaceutical Formulations, Maximizing Drug Therapy*

**Sigmapharm Laboratories, LLC**

3375 Progress Drive, Bensalem - PA 19020

Tel.: (215) 352-6655 - Fax: (215) 352-6644

[www.sigmapharm.com](http://www.sigmapharm.com)