CLERGY

His Eminence, Archbishop Elpidophoros of America
Rev. Fr. Nikolaos Karoutsos, Cathedral Dean
Rev. Fr. Soriti Michalakos, Associate Pastor

CATHEDRAL BOARD

Stella Pantelidis, Cathedral Board President
George Liakas, First Vice President
Stephen Cherpelis, Second Vice President
Nick Tsoukaris, Treasurer
Elias Lambiris, Assistant Treasurer
Peter Chrysanthopoulos, Secretary
Dimitra Manis, Assistant Secretary

John Athas
George Doukas
Ted Kaloyiannis
Pauline Kotsilimbas
Stephanie Pantelidis, Ex-Officio
James Papadopoulos
Sotiri Plakoudas
Costa Podias
Diane Raffaele
Nicholas Stanos
George Zapantis

CATHEDRAL OFFICE PERSONNEL

For general inquiries, information about stewardship, scheduling a sacrament, or for more information about the Cathedral, please e-mail info@thecathedralnyc.org

Michael Baritis, Director of Operations
michael@thecathedralnyc.org

Alexandra King, Administrative Assistant
alexandra@thecathedralnyc.org

Nektarios S. Antoniou, D.M.A. Ph.D (abd)
Principal Cantor & Director of Culture
nektarios@thecathedralnyc.org

Maestro Evey Simon, Director Of Music
choir@thecathedralnyc.org

Costas Tsourtakis, Associate Director Of Music
costa@thecathedralnyc.org

Orumé Hayes, Controller
controller@thecathedralnyc.org

John Paterakis, Lambadarios

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Ms. Francesca Mannino, Head of School

Cathedral School Board:
Costas Eliades, Chairperson
Barbara Auerccobione, Secretary
Jacob Amato
Live Sletten Diakolos
Virginia Muller
Stella Pantelidis
Amalia Bournias, Member
Maria Drakos, Member
Eva Kaliwas Krieger, Member
Frederica Sagiani-Panagiotakis, Member

His Grace, Bishop Apostolos of Medeia

CATHEDRAL MINISTRY LEADERS

Philoptochos President:
Stephanie Pantelidis
lola1288@aol.com

Stewardship:
Dr. George Liakas
drgeorge@lexmednyc.com

Sunday School:
Effie Doscas
edoscas@ziffster.com

Hellenic Afternoon School:
Roula Trikoumaki
hellenicas@cdathedralschoolny.org

Primetimers:
Carol Contos
eeceecontos@yahoo.com
Pauline Kotsilimbas
pkotsi@gmail.com

Cathedral Connect:
George Kostenakis
cconnect@thecathedralnyc.org

GOYA (13-18 yrs old):
Diane Chudley
goya@thecathedralnyc.org

JOY (7-12 yrs old) / HOPE (4-6 yrs old):
Peggy Pyrovolakis
hope-joy@thecathedralnyc.org

Little Angels:
Diakonissa Elizabeth Constantine
littleangels@thecathedralnyc.org

Art & Culture:
Nektarios Antoniou
nektarios@cdathedralschoolny.org

Liturgy On The Streets:
Andrew Yiannakos
andrew.yiannakos@gmail.com

Cathedral Music Ministry:
Maestro Evey Simon
choir@thecathedralnyc.org

Cathedral Cub Scouts:
John Paterakis
Andrew Yiannakos
pack74bsa@thecathedralnyc.org

Bookstore:
Charles Connant
ceconnantjr@verizon.net
ABOUT OUR PARISH

337 E 74th St, New York, NY 10021
212-288-3215
www.thecathedralnyc.org
info@thecathedralnyc.org

His Eminence,
Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

Rev. Fr. Nikolas Karloutsos,
Dean of Cathedral

Rev. Fr. Sotiri Michalatos,
Associate Pastor
Dear Fr. Nikolas and Fr. Sotiri,

Beloved Brethren in the Lord,

I greet all of you in this New Year of the Grace of our Lord, and pray that your families and loved ones will enjoy a happier and healthier 2021. The Cathedral family has persevered through the pandemic, and I am proud of all that has been accomplished, despite the enormous difficulties. Even amidst the loss of life and livelihood, the Cathedral is poised for a renaissance of the community, as we see prospects of the vaccines take effect.

As we continue to go forward as the Ekklesia — those who have been called by God to love and to serve — I encourage all to foster a sense of unity and purpose in every aspect of Cathedral life. As the Body of Christ, we are all connected, even to those we may not know. We are members of one another, as the Apostle Paul says (Romans 12:5). This signifies much more than the Sunday reality of Divine Liturgy. It means that each of us has a prayerful, loving responsibility for each other. Perhaps you are called to be more aware of the most vulnerable in the Cathedral family, or to pay more attention to the elderly who sometimes escape our notice. Maybe your calling is to help strengthen our young people, and their sense of belonging to the Church in a more substantial way. Whatever it is, we can only truly be a loving community that serves the Lord and one another, if we do it together.

There are many projects in the Cathedral that require our attention and their completion. We can do them all, together. There is no challenge that we cannot meet; and if the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that our resilience as the Church has been tested, but in no way overcome. We learned to bend, so as not to break.

My prayer for each of you is that this New Year of 2021 will be a year of blessing, a year of renewal, and above all, a year of unity of heart and mind, so that we may achieve our full potential as Christians and the Church of Christ.

With paternal love in the Lord,
† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America
Beloved Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

It is a great joy and blessing for me to greet our Cathedral family for the first time in this Winter 2021 issue of CathedraLife, our community’s Newsletter which years ago was so creatively “baptized” with this name by our Communications Ministry team. Ministry is Life and Life is Ministry! But what exactly is meant by “ministry”?

Within the Church we often hear this word preceding other words like “Youth” or “Homeless” or “Hospital” or “Music” and may not give full attention to considering what it actually means. A ministry is something that we use to express and demonstrate our faith. When done well, it has the added benefit of helping to inspire others in their faith and action in the world around us. In this spirit, I congratulate each and every one of you—our readers, stewards, supporters, and friends who are members of our Communications Ministry, even if it’s not in the masthead of this publication! Knowingly or unknowingly, we ALL have a role to play in expressing and sharing the faith in our communications and interpersonal relationships, in word, deed and thought, whether or not we “signed up for it” at the Ministry Fair Sunday in the Fall.

REV. FR. NIKOLAS KARLOUTSOS
CATHEDRAL DEAN

Rest assured, we are all qualified to do this work by virtue of our identity as sons and daughters of God, our Father. Our Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and indeed the entire Church through Her Life and Worship further provide the mystical means by which we encounter Christ and are joined to Him as members of His Body. “And to be a living member of the body of Christ means that I must partake of the qualities of Christ” writes +Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra in his volume The Church at Prayer, “so that there might take place an exchange of attributes, as happened with the two natures of Christ.”

By the Grace of God, we have been called into a relationship which aspires in its most refined and sublime form, to reflect the unity in diversity of the Holy Trinity. One attribute does not dominate another but rather complements it. When we’re weak, we turn to another who is strong. When one of us weeps, another of us comforts. When one of us strives to attain growth or a lofty goal, others encourage us along our journey. Our Cathedral Family culture celebrates this healthy interdependence and exchange of qualities so as to best demonstrate and express the transformative love and mercy that our Lord brings to our lives, to our CathedraLife and “for the life of the world.” (John 6:51)

Drawing inspiration from our Heavenly Patron the “Trinity, One in Essence and Undivided,” my prayer is that we grow together as a dwelling place of God in the Spirit, here at the Cathedral, in and through her ministries. Your life, my life and His Life are One! May our shared Cathedral Life be to the Glory of God, that with Oneness of Mind we may witness to the unity of the faith, journeying together to the fullness of Christ.

(Ephesians 4:13)

Faithfully and gratefully in Christ’s service,

Fr. Nikolas
As I reflect upon the past year at the Cathedral, I am awe inspired at our community’s extraordinary strength and dedication. Despite the difficulties we faced last year, our community united in remarkable fashion to support our parishioners, our church, and our Cathedral School, not only financially, but with gifts of time and talents. You may have bought a raffle, or simply a virtual candle. Many offered Christmas donations and/or participated in the Community Christmas Card. Many also participated in our Virtual Choir Christmas Concert. For all that you have done, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. Now that the new year is upon us, we look forward to receiving your stewardship pledges, and I look forward to welcoming new stewards to our Cathedral family.

UPDATE ON THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

While recognizing the truly amazing efforts of our community, it is only fitting that a special “Thank You” goes to our dedicated, “A” Team of volunteers that comprise our Building Committee. Amidst the chaos, trials, and tribulations of Covid 19, our Building Committee did not miss a beat managing our construction efforts. Not only did the Building Restoration project continue with not more than a brief delay during the lockdown, the committee finalized the details for the Chiotes Hall renovation which commenced with the demolition phase on January 4th.

A major milestone of the restoration project was the completion of the Bell Tower, where Spanish Tiles were replaced, old broken windows were repaired, and new water proofing was applied.

The dedication and support of the committee will ensure that we will achieve our goals and provide our community a beautifully restored Cathedral and Chiotes Hall soon, and for future generations.

Please visit our website, thecathedralnyc.org, for additional updates and pictures of both projects.

Thank you for continuing to make the Archdiocesan Cathedral of The Holy Trinity a philanthropic priority. Thank you, again, for your generosity and your continued support and love for our church and its ministries. May The Holy Trinity continue to unite us in love, service and faith.

With deepest gratitude,  
Stella E. Pantelidis  
Cathedral Board President
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR
DECEMBER 24, 2020
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

The Homeless Ministry of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity started in November 2018, with volunteers (and friends) that desired to do very meaningful, and humane, work.

Why do we do this?

“… For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me.” Matthew 25: 34-36, 40

In Jan 2021, we “rebooted” this Ministry, limiting the number of participants due to pandemic concerns. With Fr. Nikolas’ and Fr Sotiri’s blessings (and participation), 14 volunteers helped with developing hygiene/toiletries kits and packing clothes; then 5 cars with 8 volunteers delivered these donations to three locations in Manhattan.

Our volunteers range in age from high-school students all the way to our dynamic Prime-Timers.

To date, the Homeless Ministry has been funded by many personal and generous donations. In particular, we thank the Cathedral’s Ladies Philoptochos for providing the seed money to get the Ministry going again in early 2021.

We plan to continue our Ministry in 2021, keeping to the 2nd Friday of the month. We are also planning to expand the core steering committee as this Ministry is growing and has an interest from many members of the community.

We continue to collect supplies, such as: toiletries (bars of soap, combs, toothbrushes, toothpastes, small lotions, razors); clothing (new socks, new underwear, hats, gloves, scarfs, gently worn sweats, pants); as well as blankets and back-packs.

If you are interested, please send your email to frsotiri@thecathedralnyc.org and we will add you to our Ministry’s communication. Our next volunteer night is Friday, Feb 12th, 7 PM to pack, and 9:30 PM to deliver. We meet in the Cathedral Center’s foyer, keep socially distant, but pre-registration is needed. (Instructions will be included with the email communication from the Ministry).
The Cathedral School is a Nursery (3 year old program), Pre K 4, and Kindergarten - 5th grade co-educational day school that offers a nurturing environment while preparing young minds for a rigorous academic education rooted in the principles of Hellenism. Our curriculum integrates the most up to date educational methods while adhering to the ancient Greek tradition of paideia which views education as character formation, responsibility and the pursuit of excellence in all forms.

Our school offers a family like environment beginning with our youngest learners. Certified trained teachers encourage hands-on inquiry, cooperative and independent learning, and rich language experiences.

In Nursery and Pre Kindergarten a focus on social and emotional skills and personal responsibility enhance each child's development socially and academically. In Kindergarten, social-emotional and academic growth builds upon early learned skills and work towards formal instruction in the subject areas of reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, science, Greek language and culture.

Schedules at every grade level are carefully planned to include work, nutrition, physical activities, rest and enjoyment. Our teachers instill a love of learning in each of our young students that is apparent every day.

Greek Language and Culture

Instruction in Greek begins with the earliest grades and is based on oral communication and play. Our youngest students sing songs, play games, and listen to stories in Greek. As children grow older, they learn to recognize the letters and sounds of the Greek alphabet eventually moving on to enriched vocabulary, reading, writing, culture and philosophy. Our goal is to teach the riches of the Greek language as a medium of communication, a linguistic foundation and an initial view into the art and history of western civilization.

Enrichment and Specials

Students in all grades participate in specials such as art, physical education, music, and technology which complement and enhance their school day.

Our program is focused on addressing the needs of the whole child; intellectual, social, emotional, and physical through the use of developmentally appropriate instruction making the most of the energy, curiosity, and desire to learn.

Admissions:

For more information on The Cathedral School Admissions process please visit our School website at https://www.cathedralschoolny.org/ under the menu tab ADMISSIONS.

Contact Information:
info@cathedralschoolny.org
319 East 74th Street
New York, NY 10021
Cathedral choir hosts “GOD IS WITH US”
Archdiocesan virtual Christmas concert

The Cathedral Choir hosted “God Is With Us”, an Archdiocesan Virtual Christmas Concert that featured Christmas hymns and songs, highlighted by Sir John Tavener’s “God Is With Us”. Directed by Costas Tsourakis, the concert was filmed at various churches in the Archdiocesan District, including St. Barbara, St. Gerasimos, and Sts. Catherine & George.

In addition, musicians from all across the Archdiocese participated in “Christ is Born; Glorify Him!”, a world premiere virtual choir piece that was composed by Cathedral Dino Anagnost Artist-in-Residence, Dawn Helene. We are grateful to all the different communities, musicians, and sponsors who collaborated with us to make the concert a successful benefit for the Archdiocesan Cathedral.

To continue to follow the Cathedral Choir while we wait to reconvene, please visit www.archcathedralchoir.com, where you can access our YouTube channel.

Thank you to all for your support.
ORATORICAL FESTIVAL 2021 - PARISH LEVEL

The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival is a ministry of the Archdiocese and provides Greek Orthodox youth the opportunity to write and talk about their faith. There are 3 Divisions - Elementary (grades 4-6, at the Parish level only), Junior (grades 7-9) and Senior (grades 10-12).

We held our Parish Festival on Sunday, February 7th, 2021. This year there were 2 speakers in the Junior Division: Eva Raffaele and Andreas Tsatsas. We also had 1 speaker in the Senior Division: Emily Knapp. They each presented a speech about various topics provided by the Department of Religious Education. Eva spoke about the meaning of prayer in one’s life. Andreas discussed the challenges and opportunities of watching a Church service that is live streamed. Emily spoke about freedom and how it becomes a basis for being a servant.

There were also 4 children in the Elementary Division this year: Christina Batalias, Christos Michalatos, Ellie Raffaele, and Athena Tsatsas. They chose their own topics, which ranged from the meaning of family to speaking of kindness to reciting the “Lord’s Prayer” in Greek. We continue to be encouraged by the growing number of younger students speaking this year.

Eva Raffaele, Andreas Tsatsas, and Emily Knapp will advanced to the Direct Archdiocesan District I Festival, which will be hosted by the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, Brooklyn, NY on April 3.

Christina Connant, the Festival Chairperson, was once again impressed with the confidence the youth had to speak publicly and with the content of so many of the speeches. The judges this year were Karen Kalkines, James Mallios, and Danielle Xanthos. Christina sincerely appreciates the judges for volunteering their time and expertise while listening and evaluating the speeches. She thanks Christina Villani for timekeeping. And a special thank you to The Cathedral Fellowship Bookstore for generously donating the gifts for the participants and the judges. We are grateful for Fr. Nikolas and Fr. Sotiri’s support and guidance to make this a success.

We look forward to next year’s Festival and hope to hear from even more of our children in this growing ministry.
HOPE, JOY, & GOYA

Our youth groups had a few opportunities to get together before it got too cold outside! This fall, we had some fun times at John Jay Park, including a gingerbread making party, and we tackled a ropes course in Long Island where the kids did an obstacle course among the trees (no big deal... just hanging out 20 feet + in the air!!!)

Plans are underway for more activities, and now is the time for some winter sports! We kicked off the 2021 year on Saturday, January 30th with HOPE, JOY, and GOYA going ice skating at Wollman Rink in Central Park after the Feast of the Three Hierarchs liturgy and Vasilopita cutting at the church.

In addition, our youth participated in the 2021 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival on February 7th. On our next event, our GOYA will have their annual ski trip on February 20th. Many, many other fun things are planned and we hope to get the kids safely together as much as possible. See the tentative schedule below.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at hope-joy@thecathedralnyc.org or goya@thecathedralnyc.org.
ARCHDIOCESAN CATHEDRAL
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas holiday with your families and friends and may the New Year bring us all health, happiness and prosperity.

We want to thank all of our Philoptochos supporters for being committed to our mission and helping us through a difficult 2020. Even though our major fundraisers were cancelled, our call for help was met by a welcoming response. In lieu of our Spring Luncheon, we held a special appeal during the difficult times of COVID-19 and we’re happy to report that we raised over $10,000 and were able to help many families who lost their jobs and could not pay their bills. We also supported the Ecumenical Patriarchate Balikli Greek Hospital and Senior Center, which is one of our annual National Philoptochos obligations. The Direct Archdiocesan District initiated a diaper drive to support many underprivileged young families and we were able to donate $500 towards that cause.

During the Covid year of 2020, we also cancelled our popular Chrysanthemum Ball, but were still able to provide all of you with a raffle, which was a huge success. It became our biggest fundraiser of the year and we were able to raise approximately $28,000. Once again, we thank you for your generosity. We have continued to support the Jan Hus Feeding the Homeless Program throughout the year. It has now changed its name to the Jan Hus-Urban Outreach Center and they continue to feed and supply clothing to over 200 homeless people in NYC. Stephanie Pantelidis and Catherine Moutoussis along with Father Nikolas attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Center and Philoptochos donated 5000 masks to the Center. We also donated $2,500 to the Archdiocesan Clergy and Lay people Pension fund in honor of Archbishop Elpidophoros’s nameday.

We ended our year with our Annual Angel Christmas Tree, which consisted of many donations that went to support the underprivileged children of the John B. Russwurm School, P.S. 197 in Harlem, where we gave 15 chrome books, amongst other supplies, the children of St. Basil’s Academy and our own Cathedral School.

We continue to support all our National Philoptochos obligations monthly as well as all the people in need in and out of our community. None of this would have been possible without your help. We miss seeing every one of you at our events and we look forward to the day that we can all meet and hug again. Please contact us if you know of anyone in need of help.

Once again, we want to wish you a Happy and Healthy 2021.
ORDINATION OF FR. SOTIRI TO THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD
SEPTEMBER 26, 2020
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School started in September 2020, with registration and children with their families enrolling to safely take part in church and with classes. We did not offer the nursery program for ages 40 days old thru 31/2 years old due to COVID-19 concerns. Sunday School has been available to all children from the ages of 4 years old and older. We have our wonderful volunteer teachers: Ellen Karis, Bradly Sykes, Barbara Aurecchione, Teodora Dinescu, Phoebe Boosalis and Benjamin Moore, who are consistently volunteering their time to be at Sunday School every week to teach the children.

The Sunday School children participated in a new children’s choir. The new children’s choir is presented by the Archdiocesan Children’s Choir and directed by Nektarios Antoniou. The children meet after church in the undercroft on Sundays and have zoom rehearsals on Wednesday’s.

The Sunday School have had wonderful classes to date and enjoy attending Church on Sundays. We take every precaution with COVID-19. We all wear our masks and sanitize our hands. The children are spaced out in their classes. The teachers are very aware of all that needs to be done, to protect the children.

We will begin discussing our Easter events and have a class regarding Lent. We hope to include the children to participate in the Sunday of the Icons and carrying the palms around the church for Palm Sunday. We hope to schedule Holy Friday Apokathelosis service soon.
CATHEDRAL CONNECT

Despite the hardships with the global pandemic, Cathedral Connect remained active in the fall. Events included:

• Hiking Mt Beacon in Beacon NY on October 17.

• Halloween Wine Tasting and Apple picking in Warwick Valley Winery and Distillery on October 31.

• Participated in St. Nicholas Sacks, in partnership with Focus North America and Vibrant Emotional Health Center, where we raised $660 for 30 sacks which were distributed to at risk families.

For future events or for more information please reach out to us via email: connect@thecathedralnyc.org
We are grateful to the 54 families and individuals who have submitted pledges of financial support for our Cathedral in 2021. Help us reach our goal: we have currently raised $75,973.37 of our stewardship goal of $425,000.00. If your name has been omitted by mistake, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office immediately so that we can correct the error. Names below have submitted a 2021 stewardship form.

*Sponsor Three Days or More
*Dr. John Athas and Dr. Monica Tadros
*Mr. Aristides Embiricos
*Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Robin Psaros

*Sponsor Two Days
*Mr. & Mrs. George and Athena Goudelias
Fr. Nikolas and Pres. Meghan Karloutsos
Drs. George and Miranda Kofinas

*Sponsor One Day
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth and Joanne Adams
*Mr. George Andreou
*Mr. & Mrs. David and Irene Harron
*Mr. & Mrs. Bob and Eva Krieger
*Mr. & Mrs. Elias and Madelene Lambiris
Mr. & Mrs. James and Nikki Margarites
*Ms. Georgia Mouzakis
Ms. Bess Nicholas
*Dr. & Mrs. Charles and Effie Strouthides

*Cathedral Stewards
*Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Helen Bapis
*Ms. Evangeline Benveniste
*Mrs. Aphrodite Calamaras
*Mrs. Irene Campbell
*Mrs. Mary N. Chakeres
Mr. & Mrs. Charles and Christina Connant
*Mrs. Ellen Constantinides
*Mrs. Dennis Damascus
*Mrs. Kyra Demoleas
*Mrs. Stella Demoleas
*Mr. & Mrs. Stephen and Mary Diacrussi
Ms. Dawn Helene
*Mr. & Mrs. Ben and Barbara Germana
Ms. Anastasia Gerontis

*Dr. John Thomas and Mrs. Deana Balahitsis-Thomas
Mr. Nikolaos Tsoukaris
*Dr. & Mrs. Constantine and Anastasia Vardopoulos
*Dr. & Mrs. George and Maria Yatrakis

*Ms. Frances C. Gretes
*Ms. Catherine Kartsonas
*Ms. Alexandra King
*Mr. Emmanuel Kladitis
*Mrs. Adrienne Legas
*Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Sophia Livanos
*Ms. Maia Magoulakis
*Fr. Sotiri and Pres. Kathy Michalatos
*Dr. & Mrs. Michael and Sophia McGuire
*Ms. Ann Morfogen
*Mr. William Orfanon
*Ms. Venetia I. Papadeas
Ms. Elizabeth Papanicolaou
Ms. Tasia Pavalis
*Mrs. Regina K. Skarvelis
*Mr. & Mrs. George and Elena Stephanopoulos
*Ms. Maria Veizi
Mr. Nikolaos C. Vourkas
*Dr. & Mrs. John and Martha Xethalis
Mr. Vasilios Yialamas