

# THE PHOS

Jn- Mar 2020

Περιοδικό της Ένορίας-Κοινότητας  
Αγίας Άννας, Χρυσή Άκτή

Newsletter of the Greek Orthodox Parish-  
Community of St Anna, Gold Coast

31 a Crombie Ave, Bundall ☒ PO Box 5074 GCMC Qld 9726 ☎ (07) 5574 0777, 5574 0434 ✉ admin@gocstanna.org

If you would like to receive the Phos in colour by email send your email address to  
[admin@gocstanna.org](mailto:admin@gocstanna.org)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year to all our members for 2020! May the year be filled with good health, love and prosperity.

On 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2020, our Parish-Community was blessed to have His Grace, Bishop Iakovos of Miletoupolis officiate at our “**The Blessing of Waters/Theophania**” celebration for the very first time. With Bishop Iakovos, the liturgy was co-conducted by Father Romanos Stergiou and Father Raymond Smith. A large crowd was in attendance in Church and immediately after the service the attendees walked to Evandale Lake for the ‘Retrieval of the Cross’ ceremony. The Junior winner was Luke Jaja and winner of the Senior Section was Christopher Smart. Congratulations to them both. We warmly thank “A Gentle Touch Funerals” who assisted us once again, by providing a dove that was released on the day and in providing the two crosses presented to the winners. At Evandale Lake, the St Anna Youth Choir treated the crowd to some beautiful singing to mark this special occasion.

Afterwards 200 attendees returned to the Hellenic Function Centre for a plentiful lunch provided by the Ladies Auxiliary. Warmly welcomed were our special guests- His Grace, Bishop Iakovos of Miletoupolis; Mr Bico Athanasas, Secretary of the Consulate-General of Greece in Qld, representing the Honorary Consul-General Mr Jim Raptis OBE; Father Raymond Smith and Khouria Alison and Mr Terry and Mrs Robbie Hobson from “A Gentle Touch Funerals”. We were entertained on the day by Opa Music. We wish to thank the Ladies Auxiliary, the Main Committee and volunteers who donated much time and effort prior to the event and on the day, to offer a function that preserves our culture and maintains our traditions. We thank all those who attended and we look forward to welcoming you and others at our next event.

On 28<sup>th</sup> of January, together with other Committee members, we were delighted to attend the formal **Cutting of the Vasilopita** by His Grace, Bishop Iakovos of Miletoupolis at the Greek Orthodox Parish-Community of St George in Brisbane. All the parish priests from the surrounding parishes attended this historical occasion - the first time ever a Bishop has cut the Vasilopita here in Queensland. The gold coin traditionally baked within the Vasilopita was personally provided by His Eminence Archbishop Makarios.

**Greek School** recommenced on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> of January and enrolments are ongoing. We cater for

students from Prep to Year 12. Greek School is held every Wednesday from 4.30 pm to 7.00pm with a small break at 5.45pm. There are four designated Greek School teachers, headed by our Principal Mrs Vicki Giannopoulou. We encourage all parents and grandparents to enrol their children or grandchildren and to encourage their child/grandchild as much as possible and to ensure that the student's homework is done. As I'm sure you know, language is best learned with as much input as possible from the home. We also provide **Greek Adult classes** every Wednesday, taught by Mrs Georgia Kalas. You do not need to be Greek to attend these Adult classes. Please tell your family and friends.

Very recently, on the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, a **Qld Orthodox Youth Conference** was held for youth aged between 13 to 30. On the Saturday, His Eminence Archbishop Makarios conducted the Agiasmos service and delivered the keynote address at the Dormition of the Theotokos. His Grace Bishop Iakovos of Miletoupolis conducted the rest of the day's proceedings. The next day, the delegates were hosted here at St Anna's where approximately 100 youth attended the Sunday liturgy, officiated by His Grace Bishop Iakovos. After the service a luncheon, prepared by our Ladies Auxiliary, was held in our Hellenic Centre. The delegates were then treated to a canal cruise, kindly donated by Mr Jim & Mrs Helen Raptis. It was a wonderful two days of stimulating discussion, a strengthening of our faith within our youth and of great social interaction, both between the delegates and between delegates and clergy.

We are very proud of our youth who attended and of our capable youth facilitator, Andrianna Demetre. We hope all the delegates will be able to attend the National Youth Conference to be scheduled for next year.

Over the last few months, a number of funerals have been held within our community. We farewelled Mrs Eleni Tsamantakis, Mrs Frances Karathanasopoulos and Mrs Theano Frangakis. They were long time members of our community. The most recent funeral was to farewell Mr Hercules Lemonis. We extend our deep condolences to their families and friends. May their memories be eternal.

James Nides  
Honorary President

## Coming up

Feb  
29 Apokries evening

Mar  
11 Morning Tea  
Fundraiser

Apr  
11 Palm Sunday  
17 Good Friday  
19 Easter Sunday

## CHURCH SERVICES

See Insert  
or  
go to our website

Father Romanos Stergiou—Parish Priest Phone: 07 5574 0777 Mobile: 0414 740 477 Email: father@gocstanna.org  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am-12pm, Wednesdays 4.30pm-7pm and Fridays 5-7pm. Please ring for an appointment.

## ST ANNA WELCOMES BISHOP IAKOVOS

With the election of our new Archbishop MAKARIOS in May 2019, many changes in the administration of our Church have taken place. His Eminence decided that Queensland required an assistant bishop to help lead our Church. On 1 November 2019, His Grace Bishop IAKOVOS of Miletoupolis was officially appointed the first Auxiliary Bishop of the 4<sup>th</sup> Archdiocesan District of Queensland and PNG.

On Sunday 24 November 2019, His Grace served the Divine Liturgy at St Anna and was officially welcomed by our Parish-Community. During the Liturgy His Grace addressed the children and youth of our Church, calling them 'his friends' while in his address to the rest of the worshipping community he expressed his gratitude and joy at his appointment the new auxiliary bishop. Following the Liturgy the Parish-Community hosted a luncheon in honour of His Grace's appointment and welcoming him with a gift for his office.

Since then His Grace has attended St Anna on several occasions, and has welcomed our youth at the State Youth Conference 14-16 February 2020.

We look forward to many years of fruitful collaboration, and pray that God grants him honour, health and length of days.

Fr Romanos.



## SPIRITUAL CORNER

### The Fear of God

(Fear of Offending God With One's Sins) continued

Falsehood - and only falsehood - separates us from God ... False thoughts, false words, false feelings, false desires - Behold the aggregate of lies that leads us to non-being, illusion, and rejection of God.

(St. Nicholas of Serbia, Thoughts on Good and Evil)

The Lord does not show Himself to a proud soul. The proud soul, no matter how many books it reads, will never know God, since by its pride it does not give place for the grace of the Holy Spirit, while God is known only by the humble soul.

(St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, III.11)

Each of us can discuss God inasmuch as he has known the grace of the Holy Spirit; for how can we think of or discuss what we haven't seen, or haven't heard of, or don't know? The saints say that they have seen God, but there are people who say that there is no God. Clearly, they say this because they haven't known God, but this does not at all mean that He is not. The saints speak of that which they have truly seen and know.



# LADIES AUXILIARY

## Welcoming 2020.

This year commenced traditionally with the cutting of the Vasilopita and the Theophania celebrations. Many locals and visitors attended our "Blessing of the Waters" Feast Day and our celebratory luncheon after. Our many thanks to those who attended, who assisted and who donated such wonderful raffle prizes.

## FUNDRAISING FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, we will be holding a morning tea at 10.30am -12.30pm at our Hellenic Function Centre. With the large numbers of people who use our Centre and Church weekly, we felt it prudent to have a defibrillator on our premises. Please join us for a fun morning with wonderful prizes to raise money for this lifesaving piece of equipment. Feel free to invite family, neighbours and friends. As always, there will be a buffet table of beautiful sweets and savouries. Please book with Sharon at the office. Donation to attend is \$30. Please see the inserted flyer.

## GREEK DANCING CLASSES HAVE JUST COMMENCED

### Η Εκμάθηση Ελληνικών Χορών Αρχίζει.

**Greek Dancing classes are for any child/youth interested, not just for students who attend our Greek language school.** The groups are: Juniors – Ages 5-8, Intermediate – Ages 9-12 and Seniors strictly 13+. These age groups are to be closely observed.

Greek Dancing classes for Juniors (Teachers: Jennifer Sakley & Sofia Dakin) and Intermediates (Teacher: Mrs Sally Cominos-Dakin) are held every Wednesday from 4pm-4.30pm. The Senior group rehearses on Fridays from 6pm-7pm. (Date to be advised.) Thus far, the Ladies Auxiliary does not charge for the lessons and we maintain, repair, wash and dry clean the costumes. In return, it is anticipated that the students will be available to dance on National days, Feast Days and on the very rare other request.

The Ladies Auxiliary warmly thanks the Greek Dancing Teachers for so generously offering their time and skills to help the children of our community.

## ALLIED DRIVE

Our community's latest project of social housing at Allied Drive is complete and our first clients have now moved in. This is a wonderful project to help vulnerable older people. An official opening of the

centre is planned this year.

## PSIHOSAVATO – SATURDAY OF THE SOULS

As is now customary, the Ladies Auxiliary will prepare plates of kollyva for purchase on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Souls (22<sup>nd</sup> February) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Souls (7<sup>th</sup> March). You are welcome to offer your own plates of kollyva for the second Saturday.

## EASTER BAKING ORDERS

In this edition of the Phos you will find an order form for baking of Easter bread, sweets and red eggs. We would love to assist you by baking these traditional items and you will also be assisting the Church. Our baking is done with only the best ingredients. If you wish to place an order, please fill in and send in the attached Order Form, including the day you wish to collect your goods.

## EASTER FLOWERS

As you are aware, each year on Good Friday, the sepulchre representing Christ's tomb is decorated with hundreds of flowers. If you would like to assist by donating towards the purchase of these flowers, please see any Ladies Auxiliary member or make your donation to Eleni Liopyris in Church on Sundays.

## ST LAZARUS DAY – Saturday 11 April –

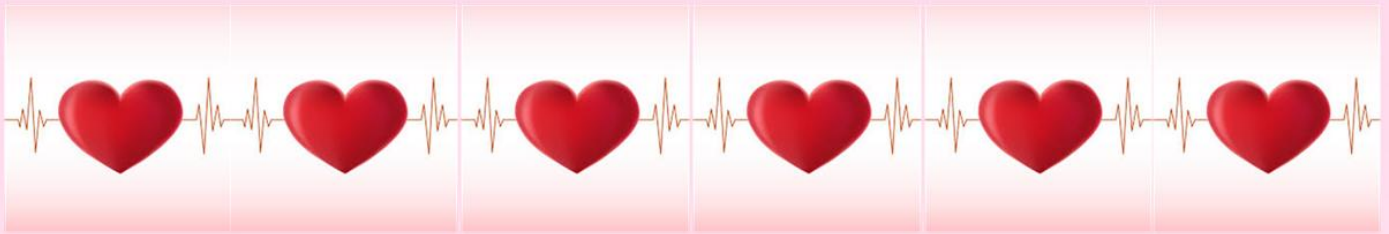
After the Divine Liturgy for St Lazarus, all are welcome to gather to make the crosses needed in readiness for the next day, Palm Sunday. Do come and be part of this beautiful morning. No experience is needed as the making of the crosses is easy to learn. If you are able to bring a pair of scissors on the day, it would be helpful.

## PALM SUNDAY – Sunday 12 April –

You are all very warmly invited to join us at our traditional Fish Luncheon at Ashmore Seafood Restaurant, Ashmore Rd, on Palm Sunday. The cost of the luncheon is \$20 for Adults and \$10 for children. Come and be part of this joyous celebration just before we enter the solemnity of Holy Week.

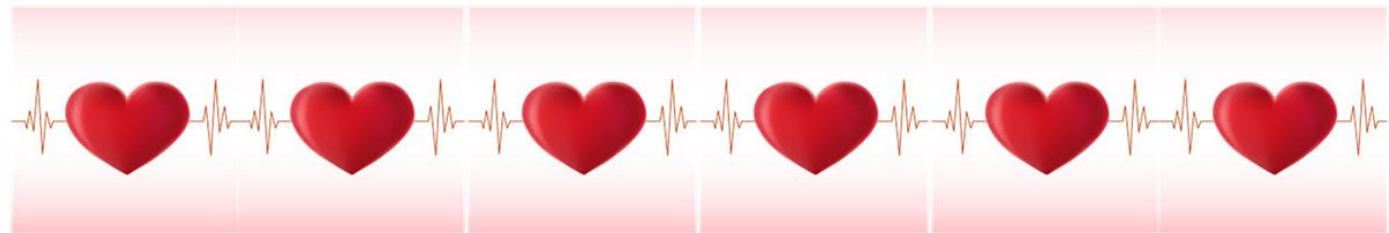
## EASTER LUNCHEON – Sunday 19 April-

A Paschal luncheon will be held after the Agapi Service. A Lamb on the Spit buffet will be served with all the traditional Easter fare. Please see the enclosed flyer for the details, noting that bookings are essential and that a pre-pay discount is offered.



## Morning Tea Fundraiser for A Community Defibrillator

**When:** Wednesday 11th March  
**Time:** 10.30am –12.30pm  
**Where:** Hellenic Function Centre  
**Ticket:** \$30 Donation  
**Bookings:** Phone Sharon 07 5574 0434  
or email: [admin@gocstanna.org](mailto:admin@gocstanna.org)



## TETARTH 11 MARTIOY

Προσφέρουμε Τσάι για την αγορά

### ΑΠΙΝΙΔΩΤΗ

(συσκευή για την διακοπή  
της επικίνδυνης αρρυθμίας καρδιάς)

**Εισοδος** \$30  
**Ωρα** 10.30πμ - 12.30μμ

Στην αίθουσα της κοινότητας  
Κρατήσεις θέσεων Τηλ. 5574 0434  
email: [admin@gocstanna.org](mailto:admin@gocstanna.org)



# APOKRIES

## GOLD COAST 2020



**FANCY DRESS - MASQUERADE - CARNIVAL**

SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY 2020 7:00 PM

**HELLENIC FUNCTION CENTRE**

31A CROMBIE AVE BUNDALL

**MUSIC, DANCING, PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED**

ADULT \$10 | CHILD UNDER 12YRS FREE

DRINKS/SPIRITS BAR AVAILABLE - FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

**FOR TICKETS CONTACT:**

Please book and Pay on (07)55740434 or email at [admin@gocstanna.org](mailto:admin@gocstanna.org)

**PROUDLY PRESENTED BY:**

AHEPA CHAPTER DEFKALION

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMITTEES OF SAINT ANNA

## GREEK SCHOOL

We are happy to welcome back all our families to the Greek School of St Anna for 2020. Our goals are [to promote and teach Greek language, inspire our students a sense of pride, love and respect for the Greek cultural heritage and maintain open channels of communications between school and home.](#)

Our teaching staff for 2020 are Katerina Kalogeropoulos (Prep, Years 1-2), Mariza Tambakopoulos (Years 3-5), Effie Bachlinzanakis (Years 6-9) and Vicky Giannopoulou (Years 10-12).

Term 1 is one of the busiest terms of the year with the blessing of our school by Father Romanos, the Greek Independence Day Commemoration and Easter celebration.

This year we are excited to announce that our primary school students will be using a great educational resource called “Θέλεις να παίζουμε;” produced by the University of Crete, Greece. It applies to children who attend Greek language schools abroad and aims to cultivate the Greek language and culture naturally and to improve student engagement.

We wish all our students a successful and productive year.

Our enrolments are on-going throughout the year.

Vicky Giannopoulou

Principal

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## GOLD COAST HOSPITAL FOUNDATION THANKYOU

The CADD pumps have finally arrived and through the support of your community these CADD pumps will now be helping local patients to receive lifesaving treatment.

Please find below a photo as we delivered them to Annette and her team in Oncology. Can you please share this photo and say a huge thank you from the Oncology team and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation.







[ Small things can be the  
biggest things. ]

**STARH Project**

**208 Highfield Drive, Robina Qld 4226**

**07 5569 1838 (T) 07 5559 0191 (F)**

28<sup>th</sup> January 2020

To the Greek Orthodox Community of St. Anna,

We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and thank you all for your generosity for the Christmas hamper and toy drive. This year the Christmas hamper drive assisted over 60 households that are working with the STARH Project. The STARH (Supporting Those At Risk of Homelessness) Project is a program of Wesley Mission Queensland. The STARH Project works with people at risk of losing their accommodation and helps prevent people from being homeless.

On behalf of the staff of Wesley Mission QLD we would like to thank the St. Anna's community for supporting many vulnerable people of the Gold Coast. The St. Anna's community have supplied hampers to Wesley Mission QLD for over 10 years now which is a fantastic achievement. We hope this great partnership between St. Anna's and Wesley Mission QLD continues for many more years to come.

Thankyou to Fr Roman for promoting and supporting the drive and to the Ladies Auxillary for purchasing groceries and packing the hampers. Thankyou also to the president of the Gold Coast Greek Community James Nides and his son Michael for loading up the hampers and delivering them to Robina. A very big thankyou to the community of St. Anna for their generosity who kindly donated food, toys and money for the hampers. May God bless you all.

Your Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet Maroney".

Janet Maroney  
STARH Project  
Coordinator

# Senior Citizens

We meet at our Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesdays. BYO Food

Θά συναντηθούμε στο χώρο μας 10,30 π.μ. με τα φαγητά μας

Welcome back to our all Senior Citizens as we look forward to a new year of your company.

At the end of last year the Senior's Committee handed out a Christmas Santa to all our group who attended the last meeting of the year.

At the end of last month we had a lovely pizza luncheon supplied by the St Anna Ladies Auxiliary. We thank them very much and it was greatly appreciated by all who attended.



## Memories

Father's Day 2004



### Providing Home Care Packages:

- Providing in home services for ACAT approved seniors
- Supporting your lifestyle needs and helping you stay in your home longer.

For Enquiries contact Julie Firth (07) 5574 3920 Mon – Fri.

### GOC Care Day Respite Centre for adults:

- 60 to 65years, with disabilities (chronic pain, vision or hearing loss, chronic illness etc)
- over age 65 years who are frail, have chronic conditions or are socially isolated
- caring for spouses or adult children with disabilities
- Mondays or Thursdays; morning tea and lunch provided. Based in community Hall, with regular outings.
- Older Men's Group meets alternate Mondays: active, excursion group. Members meet at community Hall.

For Enquiries contact Julie or Rebecca: 5574 3920 or 0438 443 608.

## INFORMATION FOR WAKES AND MEMORIALS

**For information on wakes & memorials, catering and costing, please contact:**

**Thalia Zakos on 0406 446 987 or  
Sandra Voukelatos on 0417 757 872**

*To arrange for Kollyva, contact Cathy  
Walker on 0401 655 973*

*You must give two weeks notice*

Memorials with Kollyva can not be conducted between the Sat. of Lazarus and the Sun. of St. Thomas; on the major feast days of our Lord and the Parish Church nor on the 15th Aug, the Dormition of the Virgin Mary.