CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

THE CASTELLORIZIAN NEWSLETTER

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CASTELLORIZIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

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<u>Castellorizian</u> <u>Newsletter</u> <u>No</u> $\underline{45}$ gives details of our Bus Trip to Sydney on the 6th,7th,8th June.

The Board of Directors Report and an article from Neos Kosmos written by the Editor of the New Generation Page, George B. Bisas. The article is "An Easter Reflection". We thank Neos Kosmos for permission to print.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

24th May, 1987 - ST. CONSTANTINE'S HELENS DAY CELEBRATION

All members are invited to attend a Memorial Church Service at St. Constantine and Helens Church, South Yarra followed by a luncheon at our Club rooms.

6th, 7th, 8th JUNE BUS TRIP TO SYDNEY

There are still some seats AVAILABLE on the Coach, so if you thought you missed out HURRY NOW and join us on our exciting weekend. The New South Wales Castellorizian Club is planning a warm welcome for us so come along and enjoy their hospitality.

We print an extract from a letter received from the Manager of the Castellorizian Club N.S.W. :-

"On behalf of the President, Board of Directors and Members of the Club I would like to extend a warm welcome to your Members for their forthcoming trip to Sydney in June. The facilities of the Club will be at the disposal of our visitors and any help they require whilst they are here I will only be too happy to provide."

Signed: David Goldshaft Secretary Manager

Cost of Coach trip \$50.00 plus 2 nights accomodation (if required) \$54.50 single, \$57.50 double.

Bookings: Phone Christina Pavlou 598 2925

GALA BALL

July 25th at Meteora Receptions \$35.00 single - Organise your table NOW. Contact: Mr. Steve Zombos Tel: 288 4239 or Miss. Zefi Bisas 848 4769

BIRTH

To Harry and Vicki Miriklis a daughter Born 23rd April, 1987 2nd child for Harry and Vicki and 6th grandchild for Mrs. Daphne Miriklis.

BAPTISM

On Sunday 17th May, 1987 Con and Gina Gekas baptised their son Michael at Evangelismos Church. Michael is the grandson of Michael and Nina Kyriakos, a party to celebrate the baptism was held at the San Remo Ballroom, North Carlton. Godparents for Michael are Bill and Elaine Zotos.

WEDDING

On the 30th May, 1987 Melissa Moraitis will be married to Rick Benos at St. Dimitris Church Prahran - Reception at the home of Melissa's parents Dr. Spiro and Margaret Moraitis.

For the John A. Voyage and Sheena Lloyd Wedding held on 10th May,1987. FROM SYDNEY Mark and Betty Voyage, together with daughter Maria with husband Peter Georgeson and daughters Christina, Vayia Webster, Ioanna and Dianne. FROM RHODES,GREECE Dr. Loukas Loukiadis with wife Kiki. Kiki is the daughter of Irene and Savas Diakonikola of Rhodes and niece of Tony and Katina Voyage. Flower girl at the wedding was Katherine G. Voyage and page boy Anthony G. Voyage.

In Townsville for the Boyatsis wedding Mrs. Christalla Bisas with daughter Barbara (Mangos) and Vivien (Kostoglou) and Mrs. Katina Miriklis with daughter Barbara (Konstas).

GET WELL

Steve Bisas home after a major operation at Epworth Hospital.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Mrs. Katina Zombos wife of the late Con Zombos and his daughter Mrs. Evelyn Papas wish to thank all those who expressed their sympathy on the passing of their beloved husband and father. A Memorial Service (9 months) will be held at St. Andrews Church Nunawading on 16th June, 1987.

IN MEMORY

The late John Christopher
Mr. & Mrs. N. Zographou \$10.00
Mr. & Mrs. L. Koutsoukis \$10.00

HOLIDAYS

On holidays on the Gold Coast Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Verginis and Mr. & Mrs. J.S. Adgemis.

WEST AUSTRALIAN ANNIVERSARY

Off to Perth to attend the 75th Anniversary and the Castellorizian World Conference, Jack and Marika Bisas, Theo Conos, Maria Katris, and Eva Lucas.

Jack Bisas will be the official delegate for the Castellorizian Society of Victoria.

HOME FOR THE FRAIL AGED

The President of "The Society for the Care of the Elderly" Dr. Con Constantinou has informed us that one of our members Mr. Peter D. Paltos has donated \$50,000 to the Building Fund for the New Nursing Home to be built at Clayton.

At present we have staying at the home Mrs. Asimina Jackomas and Mrs. A. Coufos.

Mr. Andrew Jackomas is at the Villa Maria Home for the Blind.

AN EASTER REFLECTION

By George B. Bisas From Neos Kosmos, New Generation Page.

Easter has again passed and for about one million Australians for the first time in a couple of years, it was celebrated over the holiday period. I speak of course of the members of the Orthodox faith. How does the Church cope with Easter in Australia? What are the problems faced in being an Orthodox Greek in a new society? What is the meaning of a Greek Easter down under?

Like many of my friends, I was baptised in the Greek Orthodox Church but the exact meaning of this and my own obligation and involvement was and still is not very clear. The greatest stumbling block then was of course the language of the services, the Greek of the New Tastaments and Byzantine times.

My religious instruction at public school was always with the Church of England students and it was not until 1975 that Greek Priests were finally allowed into the classroom to instruct in the Orthodox faith. Efforts at my own school, Melbourne High, showed that the law in fact only allowed certain religions to be taught in government schools and this had to be changed to allow the introduction of the Orthodox faith.

Despite my own heavy involvement in the Orthodox Church as an altar boy, my comprehension of the Church at the very best, left a lot to be desired. One important memory that I do have of my involvement with the Church is Greek Easter. We always enjoyed "Christos Anesti." It is a period where the family together can involve itself strongly in the Church and its teachings. Whether this is for spiritual reasons rather than traditional family customs is unclear.

The interpretation of Easter and its special importance in our Church is

a point open to discussion.

Some of the most dramatic and impressive moments for the Orthodox Church take place in the week leading up to Easter, the Holy Week, included are the procession of the EPITAPHION (the figure of the dead Christ laid out for burial) through the streets on the evening of Good Friday, inevitably causing traffic snarls and complaints from neighbours and always in inclemnt weather; and the lighting of the candles and the combined singing of the Resurrection hymn which signifies the Resurrection of Christ at midnight Easter Saturday.

These events together with our own family customs brought the Church close to the family.

As one of our most important religious events it serves as a way of bridging the gap but it is only once a year and for many people attendance at Church over this period has become more a traditional family outing than a way to spiritual fulfilment.

I, like many others, have tended to compare the legalisms and staid conservative absolutes of the Catholic Church with our own Church. Is our Church being prompt enough in answering modern social questions? Is it able to cope with the many social issues it confronts? Perhaps these questions need to be answered in order to understand the failings of the Church in particular further involvement of, its congregation throughout the year.