



الجمعية الخيرية اليونانية في بيروت
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΣ ΒΗΡΥΤΟΥ
GREEK COMMUNITY OF BEIRUT



Ta Nea

Issue 29
Dec 2021

Let's Get in the Spirit

Can you hear the jingle bells?

Amidst political turmoil, economic crisis, health threats, there is practically no room left for any jovial atmosphere.

Yet, we should always remain hopeful and optimistic.

Christmas has a special way of boosting up our moods. We tend to be more joyful, more caring, more patient, more giving. We look forward to that first snowfall, to wrapping up and exchanging gifts, to tending to special events and festivities, to gatherings with family and friends, to doing good deeds no matter how small.

Did you know that the first recorded incidence of Christmas being celebrated goes back to the Roman Empire in 336?

Did you also know that the first time the Christmas tree appeared was in Germany and it became globally known as a tradition in the 19th century by Prince Albert, the consort of Queen Victoria?

Let's unwrap together December's news in the most jovial mood.

Till then, stay safe and enjoy reading!

Happy Healthy Holidays!





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Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre (Κέντρο Πολιτισμού Ίδρυμα Σταύρος Νιάρχος) is a complex in the bay of Faliro in Athens which includes new facilities for the National Library of Greece (NLG) and the Greek National Opera (GNO), as well as the 210,000 m² Stavros Niarchos Park. The Center was designed by architect Renzo Piano and its construction was funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. The \$861 million project was completed in 2016, and was donated to the Greek state in 2017. The SNFCC was nominated for the international prize for architecture, RIBA International Prize 2018, awarded by the Royal Institute of British Architects. It is the only Greek nominee among 62 buildings in 30 countries.

Guided tours at the Stavros Niarchos Park are offered for free by online pre-registration on a daily basis with a maximum of 18 participants per tour.

Additionally daily thematic choreographies of the dancing fountains at the canal unfold before all present spectators between 18:30 and 19:30 on a different type of music per day. Another water show featuring **Christmas compositions** is added to the daily program, at **19.00** and **20.00**, from **02/12** to **06/01**.

Christmas at SNFCC



© SNFCC/Nikos Karanikolas

On December 1st, to inaugurate the festive season, countless lights went off lighting up the Canal, the Agora and the Park.

Christmas songs will be performed by the artistic multicultural youth symphony orchestra and choir El Sistema Greece along with the band Onirama.



© SNFCC/Nikos Karanikolas



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A selection of events are planned exclusively for the Members and their guests such as two festive tours in the Christmas World of SNFCC, creating animated cards, writing fairy tales for adults, discovering the Park and creating natural ornaments, exclusive admission at the Educational and Social Activities of the Greek National Opera The Nutcracker.

Tuesday nights are jazz nights by the Canal at 19:00.

The SNFCC was awarded in May 2021 the **"Health & Safety Initiative of the Year"**, at the **Health and Safety Awards 2021**, organized by BOUSSIAS Communications as a praise to the tremendous and efficient efforts the SNFCC undertook during the pandemic. All events are held in compliance with the National Public Health Organization regulations, setting the safety of its visitors and employees as a priority.

It was followed by another award in June 2021 at the Education Leaders Awards, the gold award

in the category of **"Cultivation of Environmental Awareness"** in recognition of the effort made in the school visits program of the SNFCC, with the aim of raising the awareness of students on the issues of sustainability and environmental sustainability.



© SNFCC/Nikos Karanikolas

A few months ago precisely in July, Delta, a pioneering restaurant was created at the SNFCC, featuring contemporary Greek cuisine, with aim to become a landmark culinary destination in line with the high standards of the SNFCC in terms of design, construction, operation, and footprint in the wider ecosystem and to share Greek cuisine around the world.

Forbes recently named the Delta restaurant among the 10 coolest restaurants to eat in 2022. SNFCC first welcomed its visitors back in August 2016 and until 2021, 20.000.000 visits have been made to the SNFCC, solidifying the relationship it has built with its audience.



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Special thanks to SNFCC's professional team for the below introductory brief

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)

Designed by architectural firm Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) is a sustainable world-class cultural, learning and recreational urban complex that includes the new homes of the National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera. It also includes the Stavros Niarchos Park, one of the largest green spaces of Athens, covering an area of 210.000 square meters.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) is the Stavros Niarchos Foundation's (SNF) largest single grant, which covered exclusively the cost for its design, construction, and outfitting. In February 2017, following the project's completion, the SNF delivered the SNFCC to its rightful owner, the Greek State.

Within just five years of operation, the SNFCC has welcomed 20 million visits and has been established as a key cultural destination in Athens, a place where everyone has access to learning, the arts and events that stimulate, engage and inspire. At the same time, the Stavros Niarchos Park is registered as a major metropolitan park in the Greek capital.

Complemented by the events organized by the Greek National Opera and the National Library of Greece, the SNFCC's program features music, dance, cinema, theater and art exhibitions, as well as a series of educational workshops and talks and a variety of sports and wellness programs. SNFCC's programming focuses on providing cultural stimuli and opportunities for entertainment and learning to all. Thanks to an exclusive grant by the SNF, events in their vast majority are of free admission.

Guided tours take place inside the state-of-the-art building complex. They include the new headquarters for the National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera, as well as the interior and exterior public space surrounding the buildings.

During your visit you should go to the SNFCC Lighthouse, which sits on top of the Greek National Opera, protected by the "Magic Carpet," an energy-producing canopy made of photovoltaic panels spanning ten hectares. Like every lighthouse, the SNFCC Lighthouse is encased in glass, offering breathtaking panoramic views of Athens, Piraeus and the Saronic Gulf, as well as direct visual connection to the Acropolis hill.

Surrounding this glass space, the Lighthouse offers an open-air space, sheltered by the canopy.

You should also take a walk in the Park. Occupying 85% of the SNFCC's total area, the Stavros Niarchos Park stretches over an area of 21 hectares. It is home to a rich variety of flora, including olive trees, evergreen shrubs, carob trees, laurels, cypress trees, as well as an extensive selection of indigenous Greek aromatic plants. The Great Lawn is the heart of the Stavros Niarchos Park; it covers an area of 5,072 square meters. Situated right at the Park's center, this is the point where all of its paths cross; in the summer months, it hosts an extensive range of events and activities, such as screenings, concerts and other.

Find out more at www.SNFCC.org



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Who is Saint Nicholas

December is full of joyful and jovial celebrations. As soon as December kicks in, celebrations start rolling.

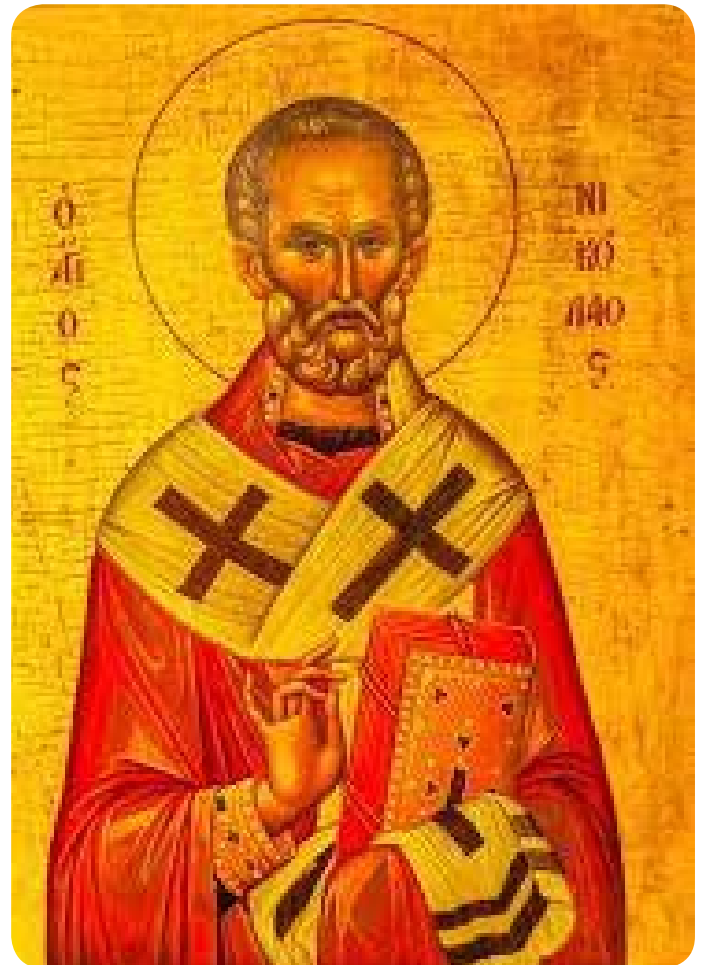
On December 6th, it is Saint Nicholas' turn to be celebrated. In Greek folk tradition, he serves as the protector of the seas and the patron saint of sailors.

Saint Nicholas was born on March 15, 270 AD, in Patara, Asia Minor and passed away on December 6, 343 AD, in Myra, Asia Minor. He is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, children, brewers, unmarried people, and students in various cities and countries around Europe.

Very little at all is known about Saint Nicholas's historical life. It is said that he was born in a wealthy Christian family and his uncle was the bishop of the city of Myra, also in Lycia. Recognizing his nephew's calling, Nicholas' uncle ordained him as a priest.

There's a story that while Nicholas was visiting the Holy Land, the ship he was on, was nearly destroyed by a terrible storm, but he rebuked the waves, causing the storm to subside. Because of this miracle, Nicholas became venerated as the patron saint of sailors and travellers.

Many stories go on the various good deeds and miracles Nicholas undertook in addition to the reputation he had for secret gift-giving. This is how he is also associated to the traditional model of Santa Claus ("Saint Nick") through Sinterklaas (Claus is a foreshortened Germanic version of the name Nicholas).



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO GREEK CITIZENS

Kindly contact our Center by phone or email informing us about any change of address, phone number or social status helping us to keep our data list updated.



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“Kalanta”: the Greek Christmas Carols

Singing Christmas Carols on Christmas Eve is a tradition spread in many parts of the world and it goes back to 129 AD when one of the first Christmas carols, “Angels Hymn” was ever to be recorded. The Greek tradition on the morning of Christmas Eve is singing carols, Kalanta. They are also sung on the morning of New Year’s Eve and the morning of the Eve of Epiphany.

The children, gathered in groups, first start their visit by knocking on the door. They ask, “Na ta poume? Translated in English this means, “Shall we say it?” or “Shall we sing?” The answer is, usually, “yes”.

Once you agree to let them sing, they begin. Once the song is over, they are usually invited in where they are given a small gift or asked to enjoy some refreshment with the family, such as some cookies or a kouloura, which is a type of sweet roll that is often sold in bakeries and as a street food. Sometimes, they are given a small amount of money.

The children sing the carols accompanied by a metal triangle known as “τρίγωνο” (trigono) and sometimes drums. The trigono is made from steel and is a kind of a Greek auxiliary percussion instrument with three angles used by the kids while singing the carols. It is also known as kampanaki “καμπανάκι”, simantron “σήμαντρο”, skara “σκάρα” or simantiri “σημαντήρι”.





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The lyrics of Greek Christmas carols wish people prosperity and luck.

The “Kalanta Song” is a popular favourite one and goes this way:

Σ'αυτό το σπίτι που 'ρθαμε,
πέτρα να μη ραγίσει
κι ο νοικοκύρης του σπιτιού
χρόνια πολλά να ζήσει.

And here is the same verse, translated into English:

In this house we have come
No stone may ever crack
And the landlord
May live for many years.





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Let's explore: Lake Vouliagmeni and its miraculous waters



Located in the heart of the Athenian Riviera, runs a small water lake fed by underground currents seeping through the mass of Mount Hymettus.

The lagoon formed about 2,000 years ago. It was once a large cavern that collapsed following an earthquake. The lake has quite unique environmental conditions: it is supplied with warm seawater (28-35°C) via an underground channel spreading through a network of flooded caves, so its temperature never drops below 18°C (usually ranges around 21-24°C), whereas a freshwater spring reduces its salinity to brackish levels. It continues deep inside the mountain in an underwater cave never fully explored, as its end seems impossible to trace even by employing sonar detection.

Because of its constant warm water temperature and its rich content in salts and minerals (mainly hydrogen sulphide), the lake functions as a spa since the end of the 19th century. Swimming in the lake is more than pleasurable, it's a holistic experience stimulating the swimmers' energy and balancing their wellness.

The lake hosts the only existing population of a species of sea anemone, *Paranemonia Vouliagmeniensis*. It has been declared a natural monument by the Greek State and is part of a Natura 2000, which is a network of protected areas in the EU territory.



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In the News: Pope Francis in Athens

On December 4th, Pope Francis concluded his 35th apostolic Journey to Cyprus and Greece which was a 6-day trip.

He was first greeted by President Katerina Sakellariopoulou when he arrived at the Presidential Mansion. The Pope then met with a delegation from the Greek Orthodox Church, in which he recalled the metaphor of the aged olive trees present in Greece, comparing their deep and sustaining roots to the shared, apostolic roots of Christianity which have endured over the centuries.

He also met privately with the Orthodox Primate, Ieronymos II, Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, who paid him a courtesy visit at the Apostolic Nunciature on the eve of his departure back to Rome.

The Archbishop said that “this day of your visit is especially important for us”, while the Pope began his speech by greeting Ieronymos with the words of the Apostle Paul – “grace and peace from God” – whose steps he follows in his apostolic journey to Cyprus and Greece. Archbishop Ieronymos presented Pope Francis with a silver icon of the Apostle Paul.

The Pope called the Archbishop “brother” and referred to both their common apostolic roots and the previous meeting of the two on the island of Lesbos in 2016. “Now we meet again to share the joy of brotherhood and look at the Mediterranean that surrounds us not only as a place that worries us and separates us, but also as a sea that unites,” said the Pope.

On the afternoon of the 4th of December, the Pope met with Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. He also met with members of Greece’s small Catholic community which represents only 1.2% of the majority –Orthodox population.

The following day, Pope Francis visited Lesbos for the second time after five years, and he conducted the Divine Liturgy at Athens Concert Hall in the afternoon.

The major issues that were discussed was the unity of the Christian world, climate change and migration.

The Pope’s visit to Athens is the first visit by a pope since John Paul II in 2001, which was also the first papal visit since the 1504 Schism between the Catholic and Orthodox churches. It aims to deepen the ties with eastern churches.





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2021, the bicentennial of the Greek revolution

As part of the commemoration of the bicentenary of the Greek revolution of 1821, we dedicate a new section. Each month we will present a story and a famous person who actively contributed to creating the actual Greece.



Emmanuil Xanthos was a merchant and one of the three founders of Filiki Etairia along with Nikolaos Skouphas, and Athanasios Tsakalov. He was married to Sevasti Kroustala. Together they had three children; Nicholas, Pericles and Aspasia.

He was born on the Aegean island of Patmos in 1772 and graduated from the Ecclesiastical School of Patmos. He travelled first to Trieste and later to Russia where he met Skouphas and Tsakalov. Their mutual rebel spirit and thirst for independence led them to found a secret organization with aim to prepare the ground for Greek independence. Hence, Filiki Etairia was founded in 1814 in Odessa, Russia.

In 1818, Xanthos, Skouphas and Tsakalov moved to Constantinople to better serve their cause. Unfortunately, later that same year, in July, Skouphas fell ill and died. This did not stop Xanthos who was more than ever committed to their cause.

It is said that during the war, Xanthos organized the escape of Alexander Ypsilantis who was held captive in the Mugach prison in Austria. Ypsilantis later on became the leader of Filiki Etairia.

Xanthos wrote his memoirs before his death which served as a crucial source of historical information about the inner workings of the Greek War of Independence.

Xanthos died in Athens in 1852.



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Oldies but Goldies

Photographs can trigger memories and allow us to briefly relive the bitter sweet moments captured and marked forever as part of us. Going through old photographs can be such a healing process. We'd love you to share with us your stories along with the most heartwarming historic photos you might have stored in those old albums.



Christmas Celebrations





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Everything you need to know about the consulate:

All requests should be addressed by email in order to obtain an appointment.

Visa Applications: For visa applications please visit our website

www.mfa.gr/missionabroad/en/lebanon-en

All permanent residents in Lebanon can apply for their touristic visa at VFS offices

<https://visa.vfsglobal.com/lbn/en/grc> .

Passport renewal or issuance: You will get an appointment by receiving an email. Required documents are: 2 photo passport size (4x6), a Greek identity card or a birth certificate (that can be provided by the Embassy if you send in advance any old Greek birth or family certificate).

For additional info kindly visit <http://www.passport.gov.gr/en/>

Legalization of documents: The Consular Office can legalize any Lebanese official document that has been stamped by the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. You can visit the Consulate any week day between 09:30 and 13:30.

Power of Attorney: The Consular Office can exceptionally provide a power of attorney to Lebanese citizens that have already made an investment in Greece and want to apply for a residence permit.

Marriage, birth, death registration: Required documents: The Lebanese certificates of marriage, birth or death stamped by the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and translated in Greek (translations in English or French are accepted as well).

Any old Greek birth or family certificate to be sent in advance by email.

For information on the current entry requirements to Greece due to the measures taken against the spread of the corona virus, please visit the portal: travel.gov.gr

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This section has been specially created by the Greek Community of Beirut with the kind collaboration of the consulate of Greece in order to better serve Greek citizens who wish to have information on all administrative formalities before presenting their requests.

Consular Office can be reached by email at grcon.bei@mfa.gr



Let's Cook by Giorgos Tsoulis

Clay Baked Spiced Pork with Prunes

6-8 Portions 30min Preparation 2h30 Cooking

A fabulous recipe for pork by Greek Chef Giorgos Tsoulis! Melt-in-your-mouth, juicy, slow roasted pork, prunes and onions, in a super aromatic, spiced sauce with Greek sweet Mavrodaphne wine that you will completely fall in love with! Make it for a special occasion or a special person!

#tsoulotip: If you like, you can allow the meat to marinate in the wine and spices.

INGREDIENTS

2 kilos pork loin, cut into large pieces
400 g canned chopped tomatoes
350 g dried prunes
300 ml Greek Mavrodaphne wine
200 ml vegetable stock
100 ml cognac
6 all-spice berries
3 tablespoons Greek honey
2 tablespoons tomato paste
2 cinnamon sticks
2 bay leaves
2 cloves of garlic, thinly sliced
1 teaspoon whole cloves
1 kilo onions, cut into thick slices
Salt, Pepper & Greek extra virgin olive oil



METHOD

- 1 Preheat oven to 180° C (356° F) Fan.
- 2 Place a pan over medium heat and let it get very hot. Add some olive oil and the meat in batches. Sear on all sides, until golden brown.
- 3 When ready, transfer to a bowl and set aside.
- 4 Place the same pan over heat. Add a little olive oil and the onions. Mix and sauté for 5 minutes, until they caramelize nicely.
- 5 In a clay pot, add the meat, onions and the rest of the ingredients for the recipe. Mix, cover clay pot with lid and bake for 2 ½ hours, until the meat is soft and juicy.
- 6 When ready, serve pork with prunes warm.



Dessert as well

Greek Mastic & Mahlab Sweet Bread – Tsoureki Σπικτό τσουρέκι

8-10 Portions 2h Preparation & 1h40 dough to rest 50min Cooking

Greek Chef Giorgos Tsoulis shows you how to make a delicious traditional Greek Tsoureki sweet bread! A wonderfully soft, chewy, buttery Tsoureki sweet bread with the aromas of mastic and mahlab that you will love! The perfect home baked treat for those you love!

#soulotip: 1. Sweet bread dough generally needs quite a bit of kneading. The more you knead it, the more elastic threads are created within the dough. 2. The sweet bread tsoureki is ready when you press on its surface and it returns to its previous state. Watch the recipe video here



INGREDIENTS

500 g all-purpose flour
100 g granulated sugar
3 teaspoons active dry yeast
Grated zest of 1 orange
¼ teaspoon mastic
¼ teaspoon mahlab
3 large eggs
120 ml full fat milk, lukewarm
¾ teaspoon salt
150 g butter, chilled and cut into cubes
2 egg yolks, diluted with some water, for egg wash

METHOD

- 1 Preheat oven to 170° C (338° F) Fan.
- 2 In a mixer's bowl, add half of the sugar, yeast, orange zest and milk. Whisk and set aside for 10 minutes, so the yeast can activate.
- 3 In a food processor, add the remaining sugar along with the mahlab and mastic. Beat until finely ground.
- 4 When the yeast has activated, add the flour, the mastic mixture. Beat on high speed, using the hook attachment, until all of the ingredients are completely incorporated.
- 5 Stop the mixer and add the eggs. Begin beating again, lower mixer's speed and add the salt and butter - gradually. Turn speed back up and beat for 10-15 minutes, until you create a smooth and elastic dough.
- 6 Lightly brush a bowl with some olive oil and add the dough. Cover bowl with a kitchen towel and set it aside for 1 hour, so it can rise. When ready, pick up half of the dough and divide it into 4 equal sized pieces. Roll out each piece of dough into 15 cm "ropes".
- 7 Connect the top ends of the 4 ropes and create a braid. Tuck the ends underneath and transfer to a baking pan lined with parchment paper. Repeat the same process for the second half of the dough.
- 8 When both braided sweet breads are ready, cover baking pan with a kitchen towel and set them aside to rise for 30-40 minutes.
- 9 When they have risen, brush with egg wash and bake for 20-30 minutes, until golden.
- 10 When ready, remove from oven, allow them to cool for 5 minutes and serve.



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Let's Meet Giorgos Tsoulis



Chef George Tsoulis

George Tsoulis has taken over many successful cuisines of Greek restaurants and has shared his culinary skills through popular TV shows in Greece and Cyprus. With his unique temperament and directness in communication, Chef George Tsoulis has won the love of the public that follows him faithfully and trusts his recipes that are updated daily at giorgostsoulis.com and social media [@giorgos_tsoulis](https://www.instagram.com/giorgos_tsoulis), while every Friday at four at noon shares with us a new cooking video #MiMassa through the YouTube channel of [@GiorgosTsoulis](https://www.youtube.com/@GiorgosTsoulis).

Recently, two new cooking hotspots were inaugurated in the city bearing the signature of the Chef, the COOK by GiorgosTsoulis located in Melissia and is an ode to Greek Mediterranean cuisine, while its second gastronomic hangout is located by the Naval Seaside Gastrobar for fine dining and top brunch right next to the water!

The European Committee for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries has chosen George Tsoulis to represent Greece in the "Taste the Ocean" campaign where great European Chefs urge us to consume sustainable fish and seafood.

Following the Taste the Ocean campaign, the European Union again partnered with him to invite the Chef to speak at the Opening of the EU Green Week 2021, the largest annual European environmental policy event to focus on the EU's ambition for zero pollution.

Last year, the organization Ambassadors of Taste for the Global Gastronomy® and Greek Taste Beyond Borders honored George Tsoulis with the Chef of the Year and World Ambassador of Greek Gastronomy awards, as well as with a gold medal Quality & Taste from estiatoria. gr

Currently, the Chef produces daily, together with his team, new delicious recipes for his site and digital media at the cooking studio #tsoulomageiremata in Melissia, while also preparing his first cookbook.

[@Giorgos Tsoulis](https://www.instagram.com/giorgos_tsoulis)

www.giorgostsoulis.com



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And play!



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

Le mot secret

UN MOT DE 5 LETTRES : IL FAIT MAUVAIS

- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|------------|----------|
| ABATTRE | DOULEUR | HUMIDE | MINES | SOIREE |
| AGUETS | | HUMIDITE | MOME | SUBIR |
| ANXIETE | EGAIE | | | |
| ARTHRITE | ENFER | IMPERMEABLE | NEIGE | TEMPETE |
| AUTONOME | ENFERME | INTEMPERIE | NUAGEUX | TEMPS |
| AVERSE | ENNUYANT | IRRITABLE | | TERNE |
| | ESPOIR | ISSUE | OMBRE | TIEDES |
| BASSE | ETEINTE | | ONDEE | TREMBLER |
| BOUE | EXCES | JOURNEE | | TRISTE |
| BOUE | | | PALIT | |
| BOURRASQUE | FIGER | LARME | PARAPLUIE | VENTEUX |
| BRISE | FRILEUX | LUEUR | PENIBLE | VERGLAS |
| BRUME | | LUGUBRE | PLAT | VETIR |
| | GATE | | PLUVIEUX | VETUE |
| CAREME | GELEE | MALADIE | PREVUE | |
| CHANGEANT | GLACE | MALAISE | | |
| CREVER | GRELE | MALSAIN | RETENUS | |
| | GRIPPE | MATINEE | RHUMATISME | |
| DOUCHE | GRISE | MAUSSADE | | |

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I	E	G	S	U	A	I	U	S	O	M	P	N	T	R	D	O	A
R	I	T	O	C	R	T	M	O	S	P	E	M	U	E	E	J	H
F	E	D	A	G	U	E	T	S	B	S	G	R	I	S	E	V	C





الجمعية الخيرية اليونانية في بيروت
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΣ ΒΗΡΥΤΟΥ
GREEK COMMUNITY OF BEIRUT



Ta Nea

Dear Classmates,

Dear Mrs. Salem,

My name is Anna Maria Beyrouthy

I am 14 years old, and I like so much my country... However, lately, something saddens me...

Many of my friends and countrymen and women are leaving Lebanon due to the economic crisis...

And I am here, now, in front of you, and I want to share with you a secret, a secret that my family shared generation after generation...

This is our way to fight bullying, our way to fight anything. We never surrender, and all this by learning from trees...

If you think of it. A tree doesn't choose where it will grow... trees don't nag if next to them there are so many trees, competition, or negativity... They just grow... they focus on being the best tree possible...

A tree doesn't care if there is today more heat than before, if it will rain... trees adapt... sometimes they shed their leaves, other times they just go into a dormancy or they focus on having longer roots.

Trees are stubborn, trees fight against the dangers and enemies throughout their lives; storms may break their branches, hurt their roots, tear up their leaves; yet they grow older; and still, they stay green.

Trees keep growing even if left alone with limited resources.

They grow in a far-away island, in deserts, on the highest peak of a mountain, and in extreme weather conditions.

Trees never by choice change their place... they even tend to stick to their place, they become one with their soil and their surroundings... trees are fighters...

They teach us strategies to fight against the tyrants and win. There must be something special in never giving up.

Dear friends,

"The tiny seed knew that in order to grow, it needed to be dropped in dirt, covered in darkness, and struggle to reach the light."

As some people say, they wanted to bury us as Lebanese, they forgot we are seeds.

Dear friends, let us learn from trees to love Lebanon, more and more each day.

Anna Maria Beyrouthy

