

Archiminiá ki Archichroniá

'A New Month and a New Year'

Greek New Year Song (short)

Αρχιμηνιά κι Αρχιχρονιά
ψηλή μου δεντρολιβανιά
κι αρχή καλός, κι αρχή καλός μας χρόνος
εκκλησιά, εκκλησιά με τ' άγιο θρόνος.

Archiminiá ki_archichroniá
Psilí mou dhendrolivaniá
Ki_archí, ki_archí kalós mas chrónos
Ekklisiá, ekklisiá me t' άγιο thróno.

*A new month and a new year,
My tall rosemary,
May we all begin a good year
Like the church of the holy throne.*

Κάτσε να φας κάτσε να πιεις
κάτσε τον πόνο σου να πεις
κάτσε, κάτσε να τραγουδήσεις
και να μας, και να μας καλοκαρδίσεις.

Kátse na fas kátse na pis
Kátse ton póno sou na pis
Kátse, kátse na traghoudhísis
Ke na mas, ke na mas kalokardhísis

Sit down to eat, sit down to drink,
Sit down to tell us your pain,
Sit down to sing
And fill our hearts with joy.

This song is sung in Greece by children on New Year's Day in exchange for sweets and money! It is about St. Basil, who is the traditional Greek equivalent of Santa Clause or St. Nicholas. Vasilopita, or St. Basil's sweet bread, is traditionally eaten after midnight on New Year's Day.

Vasilopita - Greek New Year's Cake

- 250g butter
- 400g caster sugar
- 350g plain flour
- 6 eggs
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

- 250ml warm milk (45 degrees C)
- 1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 4 tablespoons flaked almonds
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar

1. Preheat oven to 180 C / Gas mark 4. Generously grease a 25cm round cake tin.
2. In a medium bowl, cream the butter and sugar together until light. Stir in the flour and mix until the mixture is mealy. Add the eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Combine the baking powder and milk, add to the egg mixture, mix well. Then combine the lemon juice and bicarb, stir into the batter. Pour into the prepared cake tin.
3. Bake for 20 minutes in the preheated oven. Remove and sprinkle the nuts and sugar over the cake, then return it to the oven for 20 to 30 additional minutes, until cake springs back to the touch. Gently cut a small hole in the cake and place a coin in the hole. Try to cover the hole with sugar. Cool cake on a rack for 10 minutes before inverting onto a plate.
4. Serve cake warm. Each person in the family gets a slice starting with the youngest. The person who gets the coin in his or her piece gets good luck for the whole year!

Αρχιμηνιά κι Αρχιχροινιά

1. Αρχιμηνιά κι Αρχιχροινιά
ψηλή μου δεντρολιβανιά
κι αρχή καλός μας χρόνος
εκκλησιά με τ' άγιο θρόνος.
2. Αρχή που βγήκε ο Χριστός
άγιος και Πνευματικός,
στη γη να περπατήσει
και να μας καλοκαρδίσει.
3. Άγιος Βασίλης έρχεται,
και δεν μας καταδέχεται,
από την Καισαρεία,
συ' σαι αρχόντισσα κυρία.
4. Βαστά εικόνα και χαρτί
ζαχαροκάρνο, ζυμωτή
χαρτί και καλαμάρι
δες και με το παλικάρι.
5. Το καλαμάρι έγγραφε,
τη μοίρα του την έλεγε
και το χαρτί ομίλει
άγιε μου καλέ Βασίλη.
6. Κάτσε να φας κάτσε να πιεις
κάτσε τον πόνο σου να πεις
κάτσε να τραγουδήσεις
και να μας καλοκαρδίσεις.

Arhiminia ki Arhironia

1. Archiminiá ki_archichroniá
psilí mou dhendrolivaniá
ki_archí, ki_archí kalós mas chrónos
ekklisiá, ekklisiá me t' áγιο thróno.
2. Archí pou vyíke o christós
áγιος ke pneumatikós,
sti yi, sti yi na perpatísi
ke na mas, ke na mas kalokardhísi.
3. Ayios vasílis érchete,
ke dhen mas katadhécheti,
apó tin, apó tin kesaría,
si' se, si' se archóntisa kiría.
4. Vastá ikóna ke chartí
zacharokárno, zymotí
chartí, chartí ke kalamári
dhes ke me, dhes ke me to palikári.
5. To kalamári éghrafe,
ti míra tou tin éleye
ke to chartí-ke to chartí omíli
áyie mou, áγie mou kalé vasíli.
6. kátse na fas kátse na pis
kátse ton póno sou na pis
kátse, kátse na traghoudhísisi
ke na mas, ke na mas kalokardhísisi

A New Month & A New Year

1. A new month and a new year,
My tall rosemary*,
May we all begin a good year
Like the church of the holy throne.
2. At the beginning came Christ
Holy and Spiritual,
To walk the earth and
Fill our hearts with joy.
3. Saint Basil is coming,
And he does not dignify us,
He comes from Caesarea,
Thou are the Lady of this House.

4. He's holding an icon and paper,
Sweet bread,
Paper and inkwell
See the lad here.
5. The ink was writing,
Telling about his fortune
And the paper spoke,
My dear, holy St. Basil.
6. Sit down to eat, sit down to drink,
Sit down to tell us your pain,
Sit down to sing
And fill our hearts with joy