

## Select Bakery evokes childhood memories

**A** bakery is not merely a place where bread is made. It's a symbol of sustenance that evokes treasured memories of still-warm goodies emerging from the oven with a maternal blessing and simultaneous admonishment not to overindulge.

Nowhere is this symbol better exemplified — and brought to life on a grand scale — than at **Select Bakery**. Huge (5,000 sq. ft.) yet intimate (GreekTown's only bakery with a dedicated seating area), its majestic array of baked bounty is to the palate what surround sound is to the ear. Enhancing its seductiveness is the colour scheme (tan on caramel on chocolate) and a refinement of presentation worthy of the illustrious cafés of Europe after which it's modelled.

The father-and-son team of Emmanuel and Kosta Katsamakias, with a combined 50 years of expertise in baking, lead a cheery staff of skilled bakers and pastry chefs. A full range of traditional Greek, European and continental pastries (baklava, *galaktoboureko*, petits fours et al) is complemented by exceptional European breads, specialty cakes of the highest order, and sublime specialty coffees.

Further distinguishing Select is its prepared foods. No time to cook?

Moussaka, *pastitsio*, Greek-style lemon oregano chicken — and many other entrées — plus the full gamut of Greek dips and sauces — are prepared fresh daily for your dining pleasure. Many entrées are available fresh or frozen, and most are suitable for freezing. Need to entertain on

short notice? Select is a one-stop destination for party trays, rolls, and related comestibles. And its ultraconvenient location on Donlands just south of O'Connor has ample, inexpensive meter parking at the front door.

But we digress from the baked temptations. Among the highlights at Select are:

- European Village Bread: crusty on the outside, buttery soft on the inside;
- Kalamata Olive Bread: as good as it sounds. Buy two;
- Chocolate-covered baklava: a hybrid pioneered by Select, it picks up where "to die for" leaves off;
- Mille feuilles: Select's version makes a good run at the proverbial thousand sheets, each one shatteringly good.

Bakeries are the stuff of childhood longing; each is measured against our favourites of yesteryear. This bakery belongs in that Select group.

