

The Voice of Saint Anthony

AUGUST 2019

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**Deadline for
September Newsletter is
Sunday, 25 August
Please send to:
frchris@saint-anthonys.org
newsletter_church@aol.com**


SAINT ANTHONY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Pastor
Reverend Father Christopher Retelas, Associate Pastor

778 S. Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107

(626) 449-6943 Office (626) 449-6974 FAX

www.saint-anthonys.org

PRIEST'S MESSAGE

See Jesus Only!

If one were to ask the average Orthodox Christian: “What time of year do you go to Church multiple times a week, outside of normal Sunday services?”, the typical answer would probably reference Great Lent or Holy Week. However, in the month of August, the average Orthodox parish has anywhere from 10-20 liturgical services outside of Sundays. Of course, the bulk of this is due to the Paraklesis (or Supplication) services to the Theotokos, asking for her intercessory prayers as we prepare for the Feast Day of her **Dormition on August 15th**. With this, in the month of August we also commemorate a number of beloved saints’ feastdays, such as **St. Phanourios (August 27)** and the **Beheading of St. John the Baptist (August 29)**. We are also blessed to celebrate one of the 12 Great Feasts of our Church, with the **Holy Transfiguration** of our Lord and Savior on **August 6**. If we read the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, we read the events which lead up to our Lord’s Transfiguration on Mt. Tabor, when Christ asks His disciples ‘who do you say that I am?’ to which Peter and the disciples proclaim Him to be the Messiah, the Christ of God. And just before the time of the Transfiguration, He tells them just what must happen to the Son of God—that He will be delivered into the hands of man, and will be crucified and killed.

It is right before our Lord is preparing to go to His voluntary Passion and Crucifixion that He is Transfigured. In our own life we cannot enter into the joy of the Transfiguration unless we are prepared to accept the Cross. This is made very clear in the service of Baptism and Chrismation of new Orthodox Christians into the Church. Even if the newly baptized is an infant, one of the first things they are given is a cross to wear! Until we take up our own cross, we are not fully ready to follow Christ.

After the disciples Peter, James, and John had seen our Lord Transfigured in glory and splendor, notice the Gospel of Matthew points out *“when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.”* The Lord does not always appear in radiant glory to all who stand before Him. To the beginner, He appears in the form of a servant, to those able to follow Him as He climbs the mountain, he appears in the form of God, the form in which he existed before the world was created. It is possible for the same Lord to not appear in the same way to all who stand before Him, but to appear to some in one way and to others in another way, according to the measure of each person’s faith. The Messiah was expected to be a figure of glory and brilliance and those who thought Jesus might be the true Messiah were puzzled by His ordinary appearance, but this stumbling block was removed for the inner circle of Jesus’ disciples. When they lifted their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only.

Being a disciple in this world is to attach yourself to the person of Jesus. We must see Jesus only, in His humility. If we are so blessed to have these lightning flash moments of the Transfiguration in our life, maybe some of you even have some kind of transformative miracle story that rejuvenated your faith at the time... but the truth is, they do not last... and we must immediately find Jesus where he is normally found, in the midst of our everyday, humble, and sometimes mundane lives and duties.

Having seen three persons before, Jesus, Moses, and Elijah, they now see one person, no longer requiring to be strict adherents to the Old Testament Law of Moses, and no longer anticipating the prophecies of Elijah. For in the person of Jesus Christ, we no longer follow the law, but the lawgiver Himself, and we no longer anticipate the prophecies, but follow the fulfillment of all prophecies.

May we always have our eyes, our hearts, and our minds, fixated on Jesus only! Amen!



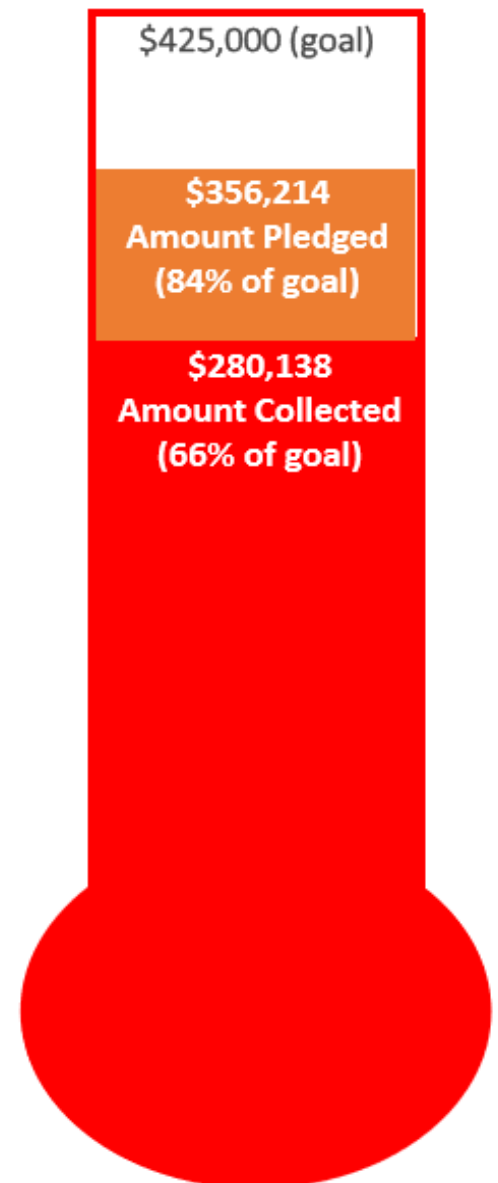
STEWARDSHIP

2019 STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

OUR STEWARDSHIP GOAL: **\$425,000**
269 PLEDGES TOTALING: **\$356,214**
COLLECTED AS OF 7/25/19: **\$280,138**

AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL: **\$1,500**
CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE: **\$1,324**

Breakdown Pledges		
Amount Pledge	# of Pledges	% of Pledges Breakdown
< \$300	45	17%
\$300 - \$499	35	13%
\$500 - \$799	52	19%
\$800 - \$999	8	3.0%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	56	21%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	23	8.6%
\$2,000 - \$2,999	25	9.3%
\$3,000 - \$4,999	11	4.1%
\$5,000 - \$7,999	8	3.0%
\$8,000 - \$9,999	1	0.4%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	4	1.5%
\$15,000 - \$99,999	1	0.4%
TOTAL PLEDGES	269	100%



*NOTE: Our current stewardship goal is \$1,500 per steward/family
RIGHT NOW, 3/4 OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL*

NEWS FROM THE LOFT



Choir will be on hiatus during the months of July and August..

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS



*"Let the
little children
come to me"*

MATTHEW 19:14

**Church School will
resume in September...**

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

The Philoptochos Society of Saint Anthony, Panagia Chapter Scholarship Award

In 2001, the beginning of a new millennium, Philoptochos established **The Philoptochos Society of Saint Anthony Panagia Chapter Scholarship Award** to recognize high school graduates from Saint Anthony community. The scholarship is reflective of the mission of Philoptochos, assisting and recognizing the youth of our church. They are our future, sustaining our faith and promoting philanthropia.

The scholarship committee evaluates applications using a rubric one to five, which rates applicants on: leadership, extracurricular activities, citizenship, character, academic achievement and participation in the life of the church. All information is confidential.

Philoptochos has presented 56 scholarships in the last 18 years. Michael Demopoulos received the first scholarship and is currently a fully credential high school history teacher. A list of all our recipients can be found on the next page. Years 2003, 2005, and 2006 had no applicants for the scholarship.

Among our recipients, many pursued higher degrees, lawyers, doctors, teachers, professors, researchers, speech therapists, physical therapists, financial advisors and investors, engineers and myriad of majors created by our technological age.

Philoptochos continues to keep you in our prayers with the hope you are using your knowledge to change the world for the better, to make an impact on society and the people around you, to improve the lives of those less fortunate than you or who don't have a voice and faithfully practicing your devotion of your Orthodox beliefs.

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)



PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

PANAGIA CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



2001	Michael Demopulos	2011	Nicholas Mobayen	2016	Maria Caire
2002	Demetre Kokoris		Leftheri Christodoulelis		Christina Dupas
	Ana Marie Efstathiou	2012	George Dupas		Alexander Gallagher
	Georgia Keffalinos		Harrison Nichols		Nico Pappas
	Daniel Fine		Zoe Demos		Christos Vagenas
	Tina Fine	2013	Hristos Gianannoulis	2017	Sara Ann Arviso
2003	<i>No applicants</i>		Jack Grover		Alexander Soewers
2004	George Tsianos		Christina Karatzas	2018	Amalia Christodoulelis
	John Rigas		Rebecca Bowers		Sophia Pappas
2005	<i>No applicants</i>	2014	Peter Stratos		Demetrios Trigonis
2006	<i>No applicants</i>		Nicolitsa Vagenas		George Gallagher
2007	John Paziouros		Niko Balas		Julianna Tetreault
	Kalliope Kefalas		Dennis Grover		John Paul Carie
2008	Patricia Paziouros		Katerina Dupas		Ariana Saigh
	Eleni Christodoulelis		Alex Christodoulelis		Alexandra Patzakis
2009	Thomas Drulias	2015	William Fuerst (Billy)	2019	Isabella Pollalis
	Charles Tsouvalas		Billy Scolinos		Theodora Trigonis
	Peter Kalivas		Kyriaki Tsigkounis		Eleni Wojcik
2010	Keith Becker		Christina Vagenas		
	Nicolette Drulias		Andreas Rausch		
	Nicholas Grover				

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)

ST. ANTHONY BOWLING LEAGUE

We had so much fun bowling this past Spring that we are starting again...

When: Every Tuesday, beginning September 3rd thru November 19th

Time: 7:00 - 9:00pm

Where: Bowlmor Lanes, Foothill Boulevard, Pasadena



Join us! Always a fun evening!

Open to all levels - beginner to experienced

Last day to sign up - September 1st

To register or for questions contact Pana Gelt pgelt@socal.rr.com / 626-278-2808



What is HOPE and JOY?

- It is a ministry of the church
- It is an opportunity to provide fellowship among our young faithful of the church
- It is an opportunity to share common interests with those of similar ages
- It integrates four elements: Worship, Fellowship, Service and Witness

Is there a membership fee?

- No
- Occasionally members will be asked to bring something for a community outreach
- We may ask for monetary donations to cover expenses as needed

What are the ages?

- HOPE (Hellenic Orthodox Primary Explorers): 4 ½ to 7 years old
- JOY (Junior Orthodox Youth): 8 years old to 10 years old

Meeting dates and times:

- First Sunday of the month
- Begins 10 minutes after Church School is dismissed
- Schedules are flexible and announced well in advance

Volunteer Opportunities?

- Adult supervision is always welcomed
- Youth volunteers are needed

Coordinator: Irene Albeck- mcmg2a@aol.com / 626-792-8122

Please leave completed form in Room 1A or eMail the following information to Irene:

First and Last name of child/children:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Name of Parents: _____

eMail: _____

Two phone numbers including an emergency number:

1. _____ 2. _____ (ice)

I want to volunteer! _____ yes _____ maybe _____ ask me later

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Community Outreach-Union Station Homeless Services- Adult Center

412 South Raymond Avenue-Pasadena, CA 91105

626-240-4550 626-255-1434

“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:4

Philoptochos oversees this outreach and seeks the participation of community members. Our commitment is the **first Wednesday of each month, once a month, 6:45 PM to approximately 8:45 PM**. There is no food preparation. You can bring dessert (ie: cookies, brownies etc.) for sixty clients.

Duties include plating food and minimal clean up. There is a commercial dishwasher or you may bring heavy duty paper plates.

Please consider signing up to serve at Union Station Adult Center. Three to four people generally will be sufficient to serve and clean up.

Dates available: **July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4.**

All dates are on a **Wednesday from 6:45 PM to 8:45 PM**.

For information please contact: **Irene Albeck - mcmg2a@aol.com (H) 626-792-8122 (C) 626-252-5062**
Sophia Angelos - sangelos2000@gmail.com (H) 626-795-0848 (C) 626-826-0848
Stephanie Soewers - szanglis@aol.com (C) 818-209-5026

Check List for Adult Center Servers

Food will be in the ovens in OFF position. If it needs to be warmed up, turn on ovens to 300 degrees.

Juice and milk will be in the refrigerator.

- Check with night staff for the number to be served.
- Ask what time to begin serving clients dinner.
- Wash hands, long hair tied back or wear a hairnet
- Count as many plates that will be needed (55-60). Use gloves when in direct contact with food.
- Fill approximately 6 pitchers with punch and 2 with milk
- Union Station Homeless Services clients will set up their tables and bus them also.
- Organize an assembly line just before serving time. Begin preparing dinner plates and line up on serving counter.
- **Do not start** by being too generous with portions; attempt to keep evenly portioned. If food is left over they may have second servings.
- **Set aside 5-7 plates for late comers.**
- When food has been served, start preparing dessert, when possible give dessert with meal
- **Leftovers: Consolidate, cover, label type of food, date and put into refrigerator.**
- Clean up counters, dishes are usually scraped by clients if not rinse prior to placing in dishwasher. Leave kitchen orderly and clean.
- Do not bring anything back. Leave food and dispose aluminum containers.

VIP NEWS

Saint Anthony 's VIPs collect non-perishable foods for the Foothill Unity Center.

The Foothill Unity Center was founded in 1980 and is the primary provider of food, case management/crisis help and access to health care resources across eleven San Gabriel Valley cities in Los Angeles County. As the federally designated Community Action Agency for the Foothill Area, they operate two locations in Monrovia and Pasadena, serving clients in Pasadena, Altadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia, Bradbury, Duarte, Azusa, Baldwin Park and Irwindale. 79% of their clients are at or below the National Poverty Level. The number of people served by the organization has more than tripled over the last five years, making community funding contributions and volunteer support more critical than ever.

Their programs include:

- Back to School
- Food Programs
- Health Services
- Pediatric Mobile Dental Clinic
- Pet Food Bank
- Support and Crisis Services
- Thanksgiving and Holiday Distributions

Please bring your donation to the VIPs collection container in the Trinity Ballroom lobby..

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord and He will reward them for what they have done.

— Proverbs 19:17

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

— Proverbs 22:9

MINISTRIES

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos

Reverend Father Christopher Retelas

2019 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Officers

Pete Gallanis	President
John Vidalakis	1 st Vice President
Joseph Akrotirianakis	2 nd Vice President
Tashia Vagenas	Secretary
Tony Christopoulos	Treasurer

Members

Philip Ted Attalla	James Pappas
John Buzas	Sophia Syrengelas
Roberto Crespo	Mary Udria
Tom Grafos	Perry Vidalakis
Christos Ioannou	Vincent Zarian

OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator
 Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHOIR

Choir Director Jim Hronas

Sherese Akrotirianakis	Elias Kalivas
Dean Athans	Stavrula Kiotas
Tina Athans	Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou
George Babbes	Kathy Lucas
Christina Becronis	Claire Marotta
Tom Bouras	Liam McCann
Judie Christopoulos	Bess Mechalas
Leah Cokias	Elizabeth Moreno
Rebecca Courter	Iliana Orozco
Athena Dallas	Alexandra Patzakis
Maria Ganis	Gena Pegadiotes
Georgia Loutsos Grajeda	Katerina Petrossian
Aliki Haralambos	Nicole Schulman
Maria Hronas	Litsa Stavropoulos
	Pres. Aida Stratos

CHANTERS

Patrick Lynch
 Katerina Lynch
 Demetrios Baliotis
 Mike Abi-Farah

READERS

Dr Nicholas Kokoris
 Constantine Trigonis

YOUTH CHOIR

Katerina Lynch



CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Fotene Trigonis - Director
 Anastasia Kalivas - Director
 Irene Albeck - Preschool
 Nikolitsa Vagenas - Preschool
 Kathy Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
 Kyriaki Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
 Michael Nunez - 2nd & 3rd
 Anna Nunez - 2nd & 3rd
 Maria Prantzikou - 2nd & 3rd
 John Vagenas - 4th & 5th
 Maria Pappas - Middle School
 Fotene Trigonis - Middle School
 Anastasia Kalivas - High School



MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Panagia Chapter Board 2017-2019

President

Maria Kypreos

1st Vice President

Elizabeth Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

2nd Vice President

Judith Din & Konstantina Paziouros

Corresponding Secretary

Tanya Christodoulelis & Maria Grover

Recording Secretary

Fontaine Achilles Malisos & Mary Dewar

Treasurer

Maria Kokoris

Assistant Treasurer

Katherine Skandale

Beautification

Presbytera Aida Stratos & Esther Vavoulis

Community Outreach

Mary Dewar, Stephanie Soewers & Presbytera Aida Stratos

Fellowship

Athena Dallas

Publicity / Webmaster

Terese Caire & Nicolette Fuerst

Scholarship

Irene Albeck & Judith Din

Sunshine and Visitation

Jeanne Karaianoglou

Union Station

Irene Albeck

Welfare

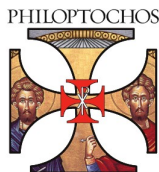
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

Advisor

Connie Becker

Spiritual Advisor

Father Peter Stratos



ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes

Fr. Christopher Retelas

Bible Study

Fr. Peter Stratos

Bookstore

Jeremiah Courter

GOYA

Fr. Christopher Retelas

GOYA Basketball

Anthia Lucas
Pana Gelt

Greek Dance Groups

Christine Pappas

Greek Festival

John Vidalakis
Nick Demopoulos
Julie Balas

Greek Language School

Anastasia McClain

JOY/HOPE

Irene Albeck

Moms & Tots

Presbytera Kalli Retelas

Myrrh Bearers

Irene Albeck

Oratorical Festival

Nicole Schulman

Pasadena Golf Classic

Jimmy Christodoulelis
Roberto Crespo

Prayer Shawls

Aliki Haralambos

Vacation Bible School

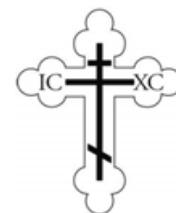
Sophia Syrengelas
Mary Udria

VIPs

Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults

Mike Abi Farah



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pasadena Greek Fest

September 20, 21 & 22, 2019!

FRIDAY (9/20) 5:00pm-10:00pm

SATURDAY (9/21) 12:00pm-10:00pm

SUNDAY (9/22) 12:00pm-10:00pm

778 South Rosemead Boulevard

Pasadena, California 91107

Phone: (626) 449-6943

Admission \$4 At The Door

Children 12 & Under Free



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

2019 Greek Orthodox Church Festivals of Southern California

DATE	CHURCH	PHONE	LOCATION	SPECIAL NOTES
17 May 3-10pm	Saint John the Baptist 405 N. Dale St. Anaheim, 92801	714-827-0181	Church grounds, Anaheim 91 Artesia Frwy (east of 605 Frwy) Exit Beach Blvd.; South to La Palma; Left on La Palma; Right on Dale	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
18 May 12-10pm				
19 May 12-10pm				
25 May 1-9pm	Saint Nicholas 9501 Balboa Blvd. Northridge, 91325	818-886-4040	Church grounds, Northridge 101 (Ventura Frwy); Exit Balboa North past Nordhoff; at corner of Plummer & Balboa	Church Grounds Outdoors Uncovered dancing on cement
26 May 1-9pm				
27 May 1-9pm				
1 June 11-10pm	Saint George 10846 Downey Avenue Downey, 90241	562-862-6461	From 605 Freeway, exit Firestone and go west to Downey Ave, then turn right to La Villa. From 710 (Long Beach Frwy), exit Firestone Blvd and go east to Downey Avenue. Turn left to La Villa, then turn right. Church is between 3rd St. and La Villa.	Church Grounds Outdoors Uncovered dancing on blacktop
2 June 11-10pm				
7 June 5-10pm	Saint Spyridon 3655 Park Blvd. San Diego, 92103	619.297.4165	5 Frwy South; 805 Frwy south; 163 hwy south; exit University Avenue; left from exit to Park Blvd; turn right; go 2 blocks; Church grounds on left	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
8 June 11-10pm				
9 June 11-8pm				
21 June 5-10pm	Saint Demetrios 5575 Santa Rosa Road Camarillo, 93012	805.482.1273	Take the 101 and exit at Las Posas Road; Go towards the airport; Turn right on Pleasant Valley Road; Turn right on Skyway Drive - festival located at 400 Skyway Drive	Camarillo Airport Outdoors Covered dancing wood floor
22 June 11-10pm				
23 June 11-9pm				
28 June 5-10 pm	Saint Paul's 4949 Alton Parkway Irvine, 92604	949.733.2366	Church Grounds, Irvine - 405 just south of 55 Newport Freeway; Exit Jeffrey and drive north to Alton Parkway; Left onto Alton Parkway	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
29 June 12-10 pm				
30 June 12-9 pm				
12 July 5-10pm	Saint Katherine 722 Knob Hill Redondo Beach, 90277	310.540.2434	Church grounds, Redondo Beach 405 freeway, exit Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance go south to Sepulveda Blvd.; Turn right to Prospect and turn left to Knob Hill then right Oak Park, Santa Barbara	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
13 July 12-10pm				
14 July 12-9pm				
27 July 11-7pm	Saint Barbara 1205 San Antonio Creek Rd Santa Barbara, 93101	805.683.4492	101 North through Santa Barbara; Exit Pueblo and follow signs to park	City Park Outdoors Uncovered dancing on wood floor
28 July 11-7pm				
23 August 5-10p	Saint Nectaros 20340 Covina Blvd. Covina, 91724	626.967.5524	10 Frwy west of 57/210 Freeway; exit Grand Avenue; Drive north then turn Right on Covina Blvd.; Corner of Covina Blvd and Bonnie Brae	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
24 August 12-10p				
25 August 12-10p				
31 August 12-10pm	Assumption/Virgin Mary 5761 E. Colorado Long Beach, 90814	562.494.8929	405 Freeway, exit Bellflower and go south on Bellflower. Pass 7th Street and PCH; Turn left on Colorado and drive to LAST driveway on left side of cul-de-sac	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
1 September 12-10pm				
2 September 12-10pm				
7 September 10-10p	Sts. Constantine/Helen 3459 Manchester Ave. #32 Cardiff by the Sea, 92007	760.942.0920	5 Freeway south to San Diego/Cardiff; Exit Manchester; go east to church grounds	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
8 September 11-9p				
20 September 5-10p	Saint Anthony 778 South Rosemead Blvd Pasadena, 91107	626.449.6945	210 Freeway - Exit Rosemead Blvd. South South/right onto Rosemead South of California Avenue on east side	Outdoors Covered dancing on portable floor
21 September 12-10p				
22 September 12-9p				
20 September 5-9pm	Sts. Constantine/Helen 43404 30th Street West Lancaster, 93539	661-945-1212	Interstate 5 north ; Merge onto 14 north Palmdale/Lancaster ; Exit #40 Ave. M ; turn left onto West Ave M/Columbia Way ; Turn right onto 30th St. West - PARKING at AV College (Ave. K & 30th St. West)	Free Shuttle to Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on wood floor
21 September 11-9pm				
22 September 12-5pm				
27 September 5-10pm	Saint John 5300 So. El Camino Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	702.221.8245	Church Grounds; Interstate 15, Exit Tropicana, & stay west of Strip; Left on Jones, right on Hacienda, left on El Camino	Church Grounds - Outdoors Uncovered dancing on portable wood floor
28 September 3-11pm				
29 September 12-10p				
28 September 11-11p	St. Basil's of So.Or.Co. 27129 Calle Arroyo, #1803 San Juan Capistrano, 92675	949.542.3445	Location Unknown Call church or check website: sjcgreekfest.org	Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
29 September 11-10p				
4 October 5-12pm	Saint Sophia Cathedral 1324 S. Normandie Los Angeles, 90006	323.737.2424	10 Santa Monica Freeway towards downtown L.A.; Exit Normandie Avenue and drive north to Pico; Cathedral at corner of Pico & Normandie	Outdoors Covered dancing on portable floor
5 October 12-11pm				
6 October 12-10pm				
12 October 11-9pm	Saint Nicholas 41132 Guava Street Murietta, 92562	951.296.6207	Old Town Temecula Civic Center 28690 Mercedes Street, Temecula, 92590 Take 15 towards Temecula, and exit Rancho California Rd.	Outdoors Uncovered dancing on cement Free Parking at Old Town
13 October 11-8pm				
19 October 12-10pm	Saint Prophet Elias 1035 Inland Center Dr. San Bernardino, 92042	909.885.6213	Church grounds - Interstate 10 towards San Bernardino; 215 Freeway North - exit Inland Center Drive; Over freeway church on left	Church Grounds - Outdoors Uncovered dancing on blacktop Live music
20 October 12-9pm				
2020 TBD	St. George of the Desert 74-109 Larrea Palm Desert, 92217	760-568-9902	Take 10 Freeway-east to Palm Desert; Exit at Monterey/Hwy 74 & turn right. Turn left on El Paseo, right on Portola and left on Larrea; church is on right	Church grounds Outdoors Uncovered dancing on blacktop
15 February 11-8pm				
16 February 11-8pm				

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas

On the Occasion of His Election As
Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain

Axios!

Invocation

Welcome

Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Proistamenos

Lunch

Musical Presentation

Remarks

Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Proistamenos

Abbess Markella

The Monastery of the Holy Theotokos the Life Giving Spring
Saint Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center, Squaw Valley, California

Maggie Thomas

Archbishop Nikitas' Sunday School Teacher

Very Reverend Archimandrite Spencer T. Kezios

Archpastoral Greeting

Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain

Benediction

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain

AXIOS to His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas on his recent election by the Holy and Sacred Synod as Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain.

Born in Tampa, Florida to Constantine and Kaliopé Lulias, Archbishop Nikitas (Lioulias) was active in the church throughout his youth along with his brother, John, who is a renowned teacher and scholar of Greek Folk Dance. Following high school, Archbishop Nikitas studied at the University of Florida where he earned a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in 1976. He then enrolled at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, graduating in 1980 with a Master of Divinity with Honors. Archbishop Nikitas pursued additional graduate studies at the University of Thessaloniki for two years. He was a Rotary International Graduate Scholar from 1980 – 1981 and a Graduate Scholar, Ministry of the Exterior, Greece, from 1981 – 1982. He further studied the Russian language at the St. Petersburg Theological Seminary in Russia, from late 1992 to mid-1993.

Following his ordination to the priesthood, he was assigned as the Associate Pastor at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Merrillville, Indiana. In 1987, he became the Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Chicago, Illinois, and later served at the parish of Saint Demetrios in Chicago. During this same time he also served as a Lecturer in Orthodox Theology at Loyola University in Chicago.

Archbishop Nikitas was elected by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate to serve as the Metropolitan of Hong Kong and Southeast Asia, a position he held from December 1996 through August 2007. While in Hong Kong he also served as a Lecturer in Orthodox Theology and Liturgy at the Holy Spirit Catholic Seminary in Hong Kong from 1999 – 2007.

Upon his appointment as the Director of the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute (PAOI), he was named Metropolitan of the Dardanelles and a Hierarch of the Ecumenical Throne. He served at the PAOI from 2007 – 2019, where he was also a Lecturer in Orthodox Theology.

Archbishop Nikitas serves the Mother Church in Constantinople in numerous important areas including: Coordinator of the Patriarchal Task Force on Human Trafficking and Modern-day Slavery; Chairman of the Committee on Youth for the Ecumenical Patriarchate; and Co-Chair and Steering Committee member of the Elijah Inter-Faith Foundation. He has also received numerous commendations for his involvement and leadership in interfaith dialogue.

Archbishop Nikitas is well-known in the Metropolis of San Francisco having served for an extended period at the parishes of Ascension Cathedral in Oakland and Saint Nicholas Church in San Jose. He also visited many other communities on the west coast and is respected as a strong leader and visionary for the Orthodox Church.

A gifted preacher and teacher, Archbishop Nikitas is fluent in English, Greek (Koine, Katharevousa, and Demotic), and Russian. He also has a working command of Latin, Church Slavonic, and Spanish.

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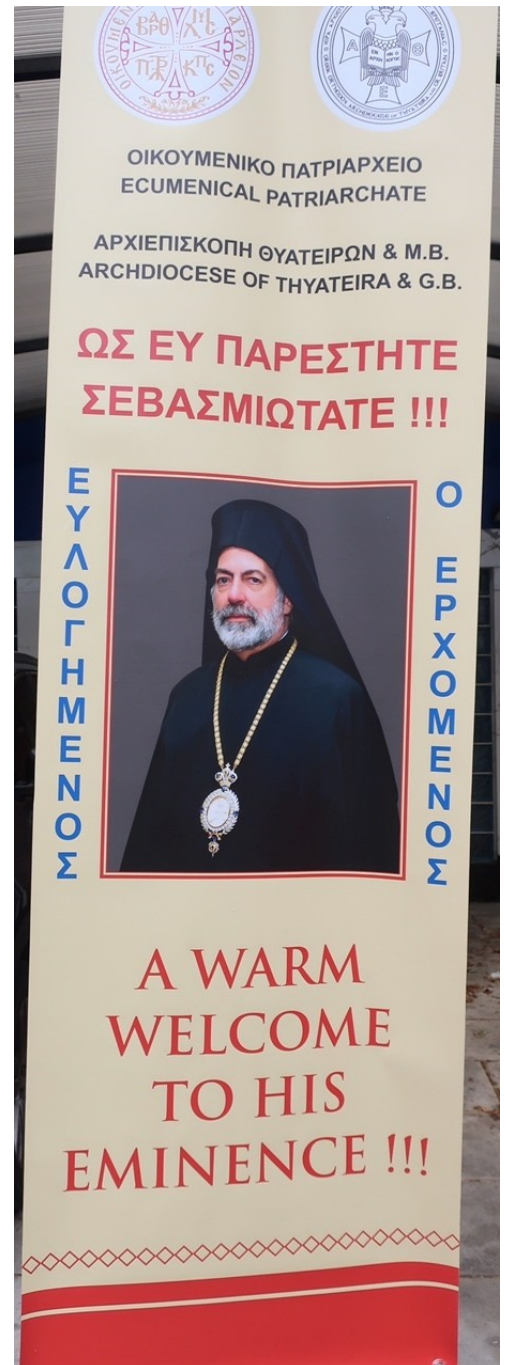


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COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

*The Enthronement & First Liturgy of
His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas
of Thyateira and Great Britain*



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FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Dormition Fast

1 August—14 August

The commemoration of the Dormition of the Theotokos and the preparation for the Feast begin on August 1 with a period of fasting. A strict fast is followed on most of the days (no meat, dairy, oil, or wine), with the exceptions of fish on the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6) and the day of the Dormition. Oil and Wine are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays.

On the weekdays before the Feast, Paraklesis services are held in most parishes. These consist of the Great Paraklesis and the Small Paraklesis, both services of supplication and prayer for the intercessions of the Theotokos.

Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

6 August

Our Lord had spoken to His disciples many times not only concerning His Passion, Cross, and Death, but also concerning the coming persecutions and afflictions that they themselves would endure. Since all these evils were near at hand, but the enjoyment of good things which they hoped to receive in their stead was yet to come, our Savior desired to give them full assurance, evidently and openly, concerning that glory which is prepared for those who endure to the end. Therefore, fulfilling that which He had promised shortly before, that *"there be some standing here which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in His Kingdom"* (Matt. 16:28), He took His three foremost disciples and ascended Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light. Suddenly, together with this dread and marvelous effulgence of light, there appeared those pinnacles of the Prophets, Moses and Elias, who spoke with the Lord Jesus concerning His saving Passion which was about to take place. Standing before Him as reverent servants, they showed that He is the Lord of both the living and the dead, for Moses came forth from Hades, having died many centuries before, and Elias, as it were from heaven, whither he had been taken up while yet alive. After a little while a radiant cloud overshadowed them and out of the cloud they heard that same voice which had been heard at the Jordan at the Baptism of Christ, testifying to the Divinity of Jesus and saying: *"This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him"* (Matthew 17: 5).

The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

15 August

Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

Beheading of John the Baptist

29 August

The divine Baptist, the Prophet born of a Prophet, the seal of all the Prophets and beginning of the Apostles, the mediator between the Old and New Covenants, the voice of one crying in the wilderness, the God-sent Messenger of the incarnate Messiah, the forerunner of Christ's coming into the world (Esaias 40: 3; Mal. 3: 1); who by many miracles was both conceived and born; who was filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb; who came forth like another Elias the Zealot, whose life in the wilderness and divine zeal for God's Law he imitated: this divine Prophet, after he had preached the baptism of repentance according to God's command; had taught men of low rank and high how they must order their lives; had admonished those whom he baptized and had filled them with the fear of God, teaching them that no one is able to escape the wrath to come if he does not do works worthy of repentance; had, through such preaching, prepared their hearts to receive the evangelical teachings of the Savior; and finally, after he had pointed out to the people the very Savior, and said, "*Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world*" (Luke 3:2-18; John 1: 29-36), after all this, John sealed with his own blood the truth of his words and was made a sacred victim for the divine Law at the hands of a transgressor.

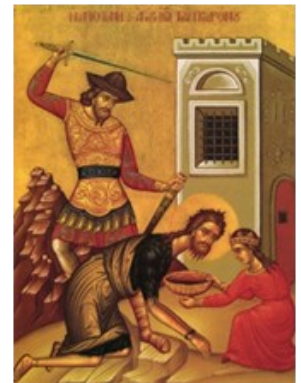
This was Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch of Galilee, the son of Herod the Great. This man had a lawful wife, the daughter of Arethas (or Aretas), the King of Arabia (that is, Arabia Petraea, which had the famous Nabatean stone city of Petra as its capital. This is the Aretas mentioned by Saint Paul in II Cor. 11:32). Without any cause, and against every commandment of the Law, he put her away and took to himself Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, to whom Herodias had borne a daughter, Salome. He would not desist from this unlawful union even when John, the preacher of repentance, the bold and austere accuser of the lawless, censured him and told him, "*It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife*" (Mark 6: 18). Thus Herod, besides his other unholy acts, added yet this, that he apprehended John and shut him in prison; and perhaps he would have killed him straightway, had he not feared the people, who had extreme reverence for John. Certainly, in the beginning, he himself had great reverence for this just and holy man. But finally, being pierced with the sting of a mad lust for the woman Herodias, he laid his defiled hands on the teacher of purity on the very day he was celebrating his birthday. When Salome, Herodias' daughter, had danced in order to please him and those who were supping with him, he promised her -- with an oath more foolish than any foolishness -- that he would give her anything she asked, even unto the half of his kingdom. And she, consulting with her mother, straightway asked for the head of John the Baptist in a charger. Hence this transgressor of the Law, preferring his lawless oath above the precepts of the Law, fulfilled this godless promise and filled his loathsome banquet with the blood of the Prophet. So it was that the all-venerable head, revered by the Angels, was given as a prize for an abominable dance, and became the plaything of the dissolute daughter of a debauched mother. As for the body of the divine Baptist, it was taken up by his disciples and placed in a tomb (Mark 6: 21 - 29).



Transfiguration






Dormition of the Theotokos



Beheading of John the Baptist

Orthodox Calendar

AUGUST 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				✝ 1 <i>Dormition Fast begins</i> 9am Festival Food Prep 7pm Choir rehearsal	✝ 2 6pm Small Paraklesis	 3
 4 7th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	✝ 5 6pm Great Vespers for Transfiguration of our Lord	 6 Holy Transfiguration 9am Orthros/Divine Liturgy	✝ 7 6pm Small Paraklesis 7pm Philoptochos Union Station	✝ 8 9am Festival Food Prep 7pm Choir rehearsal	✝ 9 6pm Small Paraklesis	 10 9am Festival Food Prep
 11 8th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Festival Food Prep	✝ 12 6pm Small Paraklesis	✝ 13 10am VIPs 7pm Parish Council	✝ 14 7pm Great Vespers at Annunciation Church, Long Beach 7:15pm Philoptochos Board Meeting	15 Dormition of the Holy Theotokos 9am Orthros/Divine Liturgy 7pm Choir rehearsal	✝ 16	17
18 9th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	19 9am Festival Food Prep	20 9am Festival Food Prep	✝ 21	22 5pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Choir rehearsal	✝ 23 9am Festival Food Prep	24 ✝
25 10th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	26	27 Phanourios the Great Martyr 9am Orthros/Divine Liturgy	✝ 28 7pm Philoptochos General Meeting	✝ 29 Beheading of Saint John the Baptist 9am Orthros/Divine Liturgy 5pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Choir rehearsal	30	31
		Strict Fast ✝	Fish Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed 	Fast Free

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Greek Orthodox Community
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July 2019

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To be filled with
the Spirit, we must
be emptied of self