

# The Voice of Saint Anthony

**SEPTEMBER 2018**

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**Deadline for  
October Newsletter  
Tuesday, 25 September  
Please send to:  
[frchris@saint-anthonys.org](mailto:frchris@saint-anthonys.org)  
[newsletter\\_church@aol.com](mailto:newsletter_church@aol.com)**



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](http://www.saint-anthonys.org)

***PRIEST'S MESSAGE***

It is hard to believe that summer is nearly over. The month of September is that gentle transition to autumn. It brings us glorious weather, the beginnings of beautiful fall colors and seasonably mild temperatures. September also marks the beginning of the school year, and generally the time when we all (children and adults) return to work in earnest after our summer vacations. Most notably for the Greek Orthodox Christians, it is the time when our Church marks and observes the Ecclesiastical New Year.

Why, one might ask, do we celebrate the Ecclesiastical New Year in September? There are three main reasons:

1. According to Holy Tradition, it was on September 1st that our Lord first entered the Jewish Synagogue (Luke 4) to preach his mission to men.
2. Tradition tells us that it was during the month of September when the Hebrews finally entered the Promised Land.
3. In the days prior to the inception of the Julian calendar, the Romans began their year on September 1st.

All reasons with historical and religious merit. Additionally, it has always been accepted within the Church Community that the month of September was the time to gather all the fruits of the summer months and prepare for the coming winter months ahead. At the start of the Ecclesiastical New Year hymnographers also prepared beautiful hymns to be chanted during church services. These hymns were offered to the Almighty God so that we might receive His divine blessings throughout the coming year.

September 1st in the Orthodox Church is referred to as the beginning of the Indiction: the Ecclesiastical New Year. The word Indiction is birthed from the Latin word meaning to proclaim. It established the annual land tax to support the needs of the empire and its armed forces and was issued for 15-year cycles. (After Council of Nicaea 325 A.D.)

The Biblical-based traditions and Church customs regarding the Ecclesiastical New Year continue to be honored, especially by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. Each year, on September 1st, members of the Holy and Sacred Synod, led by our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, gather at the Patriarchal Church of St George the Great Martyr in the Phanar to concelebrate the Divine Liturgy, venerate the Holy Panagia Pammakaristos Icon and proclaim the New Year. They also sign the Patriarchal Tome for the Indictus, an ancient practice dating back to the time of Constantine the Great (+337).

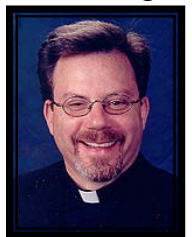
More recently, the entire Orthodox Church, led by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, has declared September 1st as a day of prayer for the preservation of God's creation and the protection of the natural environment.

The Ecclesiastical New Year reminds us to recalibrate our lives and center our schedules as much as possible around the Church. As St. Cyprian the Hieromartyr said: "A person cannot have God as his Father if he does not have the Church as his Mother."

As a community, refreshed from a restful summer, we are ready to begin our new church year. We have numerous programs and ministries available to help us all grow in our faith. By offering ourselves to God through his Holy Church we make ourselves available to receive His divine blessings. Let us therefore make this Ecclesiastical New Year the very best it can be for us as individuals and as a spiritual family. Experience God's love and grace through this beautiful community, which He continues to greatly bless.

Happy New Year - Kali Hronia!

In Christ,  
Fr Peter



***PARISH COUNCIL NEWS***

It is September and time for the festival. We need volunteers to help make this event a success. Please sign up to work. We need help setting up, baking and during the festival.

**2018 FESTIVAL PASTRY PREPARATION SCHEDULE**

Please join us - everyone is invited (lunch will be provided). Cooking will start at 9 AM each day. Ending times vary depending on the items being prepared and the number of volunteers that attend. Any amount of time volunteered is a big help and greatly appreciated!

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday, September 4    | Koulourakia                |
| Wednesday, September 5  | Galaktoboureko             |
| Thursday, September 6   | Kourambiethes/Melomacarona |
| Friday, September 7     | Kataifi                    |
| Monday, September 10    | Floyerers                  |
| Tuesday, September 11   | Baklava                    |
| Wednesday, September 12 | Diples                     |
| Thursday, September 13  | Pasta Flora                |
| Friday, September 14    | Meloma (after Liturgy)     |
| Monday, September 17    | Karidopita                 |



**STEWARDSHIP****2018 STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY**

**OUR STEWARDSHIP GOAL:** **\$425,000**  
**277 PLEDGES TOTALING:** **\$350,599**  
**COLLECTED AS OF 8/21/18:** **\$264,599**

**AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL:** **\$1,500**  
**CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE:** **\$1,266**

| Breakdown Pledges    |              |                        |
|----------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Amount Pledge        | # of Pledges | % of Pledges Breakdown |
| \$ 20 - \$299        | 45           | 16%                    |
| \$300 - \$499        | 36           | 13%                    |
| \$500 - \$799        | 65           | 23%                    |
| \$800 - \$999        | 11           | 4%                     |
| \$1,000 - \$1,499    | 49           | 18%                    |
| \$1,500 - \$1,999    | 23           | 8%                     |
| \$2,000 - \$3,999    | 31           | 11%                    |
| \$4,000 - \$5,999    | 10           | 4%                     |
| \$6,000 - \$7,999    | 2            | 1%                     |
| \$8,000 - \$9,999    | 0            | 0                      |
| \$10,000 - \$14,999  | 4            | 1%                     |
| \$15,000 - \$99,999  | 1            | 0.4%                   |
| <b>TOTAL PLEDGES</b> | <b>277</b>   | <b>100%</b>            |



**SOMETHING TO NOTE: OUR CURRENT STEWARDSHIP GOAL IS \$1,500 PER STEWARD/FAMILY.**  
**RIGHT NOW, 74% OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL**

***NEWS FROM THE LOFT***

**The 74<sup>th</sup> Church Music Conference of the San Francisco Metropolis** was held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> through August 26<sup>th</sup> at Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in San Diego, California. Twelve members of our Saint Anthony Choir attended this most successful and rewarding conference which featured liturgical music by eminent ecclesiastical composers Theodore Bogdanos, Steven Cardiasmenos, Frank Desby, (*of blessed memory*), Presvytera Anna Gallos (*of blessed memory*) and Tikey Zes, our Metropolis Music Minister.

Along with rehearsals to learn the music for Sunday morning's beautiful Divine Liturgy, conference attendees were treated to outstanding workshops on choral conducting, growing a multi-generational church music program, vocal technique, and the theology of the liturgy. On Friday evening the assembly enjoyed a wonderful concert performed by **Eikona**, the choral ensemble featuring the musical talents of guest conductors Presvytera Stacey Dorrance, Presvytera Marika Brown, and Chrysanthi Therianos, the aunts and mother of our own **Katerina Lynch**.

At the Saturday afternoon awards luncheon, our own **Tina and Dean Athans** were given the prestigious George N. George Award for their many decades of commitment and service to the music ministry of our Metropolis and their parishes. Our choir became the beneficiary of these two talented and dedicated church musicians in 2009 when they saw an advantage in the proximity of Saint Anthony to their home in Monrovia and an opportunity to contribute their knowledge and expertise to our enthusiastic and welcoming choir. From the very start, they have proven to be real assets to our group; never missing a rehearsal without good cause, always arriving at Sunday morning warm-up sessions on time and ready to sing, and being active team players in any and all choir activities. We extend our sincere congratulations to Tina and Dean for their contributions to our Saint Anthony Choir and wish them many more years of good health and service to the music ministry of our Metropolis.

Please enjoy the choir photos on pages 6 & 7







## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

### Seek First His Kingdom and His Righteousness...

**REGISTRATION SUNDAY:** The beginning of the Church School year is approaching! Be sure to attend this year's Registration Sunday on **September 9!** Parents will register their kids for a fantastic year of learning about their Faith, and kids get ice cream. Win-win!

**September 16:** First Day of Church School! Lessons, class pictures, group picture, and a Church School blessing will take place on this day! We can't wait to see all of our students in class!

**Calling all children  
4 years old through  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade!**



**The new Church School year is upon us!**

REGISTRATION SUNDAY is on **September 9!** Parents will register their kids for a fantastic year of learning about their Faith, and kids get ice cream. Win-win!

PARENTS: After Holy Communion, please walk with your children directly to the Parish Center. Children will receive an ice cream ticket and head to the Board Room to get their ice cream. You will head upstairs to Rooms 2A/2B for a short meeting and to register your children. All registrations are needed on this day.

\*\*\*If your child/ren will need supervision while you are at the meeting, please make arrangements with a relative or friend ahead of time.

The FIRST DAY OF CHURCH SCHOOL is **September 16!** Lessons, class pictures, group picture, and a Church School blessing will take place on this day!

**We can't wait to see all of our students in class!**

### SAVE THE DATE

St. Anthony 2018/19

Youth Kickoff Event

Saturday, 15 Sept. 2018

All Saint Anthony youth,  
grades 6-12, are invited:

*Acolytes*

*GOYAns*

*Greek dancers*

*Greek school students*

*Church school students*

To all our young men who  
wish to serve as **Acolytes**

**at St. Anthony's...**

Training day is  
**15 September 1pm**

Lunch will be provided...

RSVP by September 10th:

FRCHRIS@

SAINT-ANTHONY'S.ORG

***PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS***

1. Thank you to all our parishioners who contributed to the back-to-school program. We were able to donate 50 backpacks and school supplies to Unity Center in Monrovia.
2. On **Sunday, 16 September**, we will pass a tray for Holy Cross Seminary. We will also be selling Basil plants after Liturgy. The proceeds from both will be used to further support our seminarians.
3. Our September dinner meeting will be held on **Thursday, 27 September**, at our St. Anthony's Trinity Hall. We will be honoring our chapter's 2018 AGAPE Award nominee, **Irene Albeck**, for her unselfish continuous dedication and service, to the National Philoptochos Conference. There were nearly 60 nominations from various Metropolises. We are very proud of Irene.
4. Please come and support our work for the annual Christmas Benefit Luncheon. The next committee meeting will be on **Tuesday, 25 September**. If you wish to volunteer your time in any way or make a donation, please contact **Christine Pappas**, [christinepappas2@gmail.com](mailto:christinepappas2@gmail.com).
5. Thank you to our parish members who attended the fundraising luncheon on August 5th. We raised \$3,000.00 for the fire victims in Athens, Greece !! A special thank you to **South Coast Sea Food, the Syrengelas Family, Christos Athanasoulis, Thanasi Darlas** and **Jimmy Kypreos** for their donations and preparation of the lunch.

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**SAVE THE DATE****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 2018****St. Anthony Philoptochos Christmas Benefit****St. Anthony Philoptochos Society's****49th Annual****2018 Christmas Benefit Luncheon****at the Langham Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, CA****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 2018****Be sure to mark your calendars today!**

## MINISTRIES

### Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos

Reverend Father Christopher Retelas

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

|                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Rev. Fr. Peter Stratos | Pastor                         |
| John Vidalakis         | President                      |
| Pete Gallanis          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President |
| Mary Udria             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President |
| Tashia Vagenas         | Secretary                      |
| Tony Christopoulos     | Treasurer                      |

Joseph Akrotirianakis

Philip 'Ted' Attalla

John Buzas

Roberto Crespo

Tom Grafos

Chris Ioannou

Jim Pappas

Sophia Syrengelas

Perry Vidalakis

Vince Zarian

#### CHOIR

Choir Director     Jim Hronas

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sherese Akrotirianakis  | Maria Hronas          |
| Dean Athans             | Elias Kalivas         |
| Tina Athans             | Stavrula Kiotas       |
| George Babbes           | Dr. Rodanthi Kitridou |
| Christina Becronis      | Kathy Lucas           |
| 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        | Litsa Stavropoulos    |
|                         | Pres. Aida Stratos    |

#### CHANTERS

Patrick Lynch

Katerina Lynch

Demetrios Baliotis

Mike Abi-Farah

*Please notify us of any misspellings or omissions.*



#### OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator

Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)

#### 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

John Vagenas - 4th & 5th

Tom Bouras - Middle School

Rebecca Russo - Middle School

Anastasia Kalivas - High School

#### CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



# MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

## PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

### Panagia Chapter Board 2017-2019

#### **President**

Maria Kypreos

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Elizabeth Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

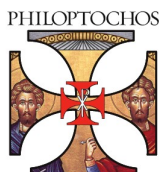
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

#### **Advisor**

Connie Becker

#### **Spiritual Advisor**

Father Peter Stratos



## OTHER 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 Demopulos  
Julie Balas

Greek Language School Anastasia McClain

JOY/HOPE Irene Albeck

Moms & Tots Rebecca Courter

Myrrh Bearers Irene Albeck

Oratorical Festival Maria Grover

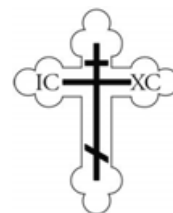
Pasadena Golf Classic Jimmy Christodoulelis  
Roberto Crespo

Prayer Shawls Aliko Haralambos

Vacation Bible School Sophia Syrengelas  
Mary Udria

VIPs Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults Mike Abi Farah



**COMMUNITY NEWS**



P A S A D E N A  
**GREEK FEST**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 22, 23 2018**

**FRIDAY: 5PM - 10PM • SATURDAY + SUNDAY: NOON - 10PM**

**SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

778 South Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena

*(between Huntington & California)*

**WORLD FAMOUS GREEK FOOD**

**LIVE GREEK MUSIC & DANCING**

**FOLK DANCE PERFORMANCES**

**HANDMADE PASTRIES**

**SPORTS BAR**

**KIDS FUN ZONE**

**CHURCH TOURS**

**ADULT ADMISSION: \$4 • CHILDREN 12 & UNDER: FREE**

**[www.pasadenagreekfest.com](http://www.pasadenagreekfest.com)**

*Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute  
Southern California Women's Board*

*In Celebration of the Feast Day of Saint Nikitas*

*presents*

# *Heavenly Vestments*

*from the personal collection of  
His Eminence Metropolitan Nikitas of the Dardanelles*

*Sunday, September 30, 2018*

*12:30 pm*

*Lunch & Exhibit*

*Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church*

*Pasadena, California*

*Adults: \$45*

*Children: \$15 (Ages 15 & Under)*

*All Proceeds to Benefit the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute*

*For Additional Information please email: [paai.socal@gmail.com](mailto:paai.socal@gmail.com)*

*Or call Tina Pallas (818) 388-7818*

# *Saint Sophia Camp Annual Golf Tournament*

**Friday, 5 October 2018**

**California Country Club, Whittier**

**Golfer Registration includes:**

**Golf, Brunch, Gift Bag, Barbecue, Beverages , Appetizers and Dinner**

**Non-Golfer Dinner Registration includes:**

**Appetizers and Dinner**

***Silent Auction, Putting Contest, Raffle and No-host Bar***

**Registration opens 1st August**

**Register Online: [www.saintsophiacamp.org/events](http://www.saintsophiacamp.org/events)  
click on "Register online"**

**Co Chairs:**

**Stephanie Lubian 909-861-1012**

**Nick Ananias 562-552-1178**

**E-Mail:**

**[GolfLA4camp@aol.com](mailto:GolfLA4camp@aol.com)**

*This golf tournament is the only fund-raiser for our Southern California Greek Orthodox Camp. The Saint Sophia camping program was designed to perpetuate our Greek Orthodox faith and traditions for all our youth from all our Greek Orthodox churches.*

*If you are a golfer, please register to play in the tournament. If you are not a golfer, please join us for cocktails and dinner.*

*All profits support the camping season, including scholarships for children whose parents cannot afford to send their child to camp. No child left behind....*

**COVINA'S**

[www.saintnectariosshrine.org](http://www.saintnectariosshrine.org)

# GREEK FESTIVAL

## 2018

**October 5, 6 and 7**

**Fri. 5 pm – 10 pm • Sat. & Sun. 12 noon – 10 pm**

Live Greek Music & Dancing • Church Tours

Kids Playground Area • Family Fun • Greek Souvenirs

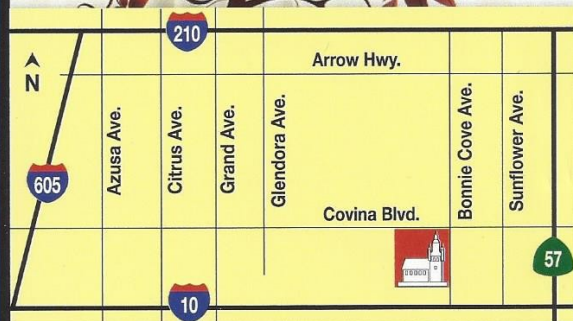
Authentic Homemade Greek Food & Pastries



**NO  
OUTSIDE  
FOOD OR  
DRINKS  
ALLOWED**

*Gyro • Spanakopita • Tyropita  
Pastitsio • Moussaka • Chicken  
Souvlaki • Loukoumades*

**Additional Parking:  
Charter Oak HS  
1430 E. Covina Blvd., Covina**



**Be GREEK  
for the  
Weekend!**

**St. Nectarios Church Grounds  
20340 E. Covina Blvd., Covina  
(Corner of Bonnie Cove & Covina Blvd.)**

For Information Call **626-967-5524**  
Admission \$2.00 • Kids Under 12 are FREE

GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

CELEBRATING OUR MINISTRIES

HONORING EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

*Gala*

You are invited to join His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos for an evening celebrating the ministries of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco and honoring the extraordinary leadership of

*Dr. James and Virginia Kallins*

with the Theofanis Economidis Award

Saturday, October 13, 2018

6:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner, Entertainment,  
Program, and Dancing to Follow

Black Tie

For details on sponsorships or  
reservations call 415-753-3075

*Reservation deadline: September 12, 2018*

Hyatt Regency Huntington  
Beach Resort and Spa  
21500 Pacific Coast Highway  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Reserve your room for the Gala weekend  
by calling 800-233-1234  
(Group Name: Greek Orthodox Metropolis of SF).

## Saints of the Month

### **Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedeia**

**September 03**

After the death of the 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia, their Bishop Anthimus fled to a certain village to care for his remaining flock. The Emperor Maximian sent men in search of him. When they found him, he promised to show Anthimus to them, but first took them in as guests, fed them, and only then made himself known to them. Amazed at his kindness, the soldiers promised him to tell Maximian that they had not found him. But Anthimus went willingly with them, and converting them by his admonitions, baptized them on the way. He boldly confessed his Faith before Maximian, and after frightful tortures was beheaded in the year 303 or 304.

### **Moses the Prophet & Godseer**

**September 04**

The Prophet Moses-whose name means "one who draws forth," or "is drawn from," that is, from the water-was the pinnacle of the lovers of wisdom, the supremely wise lawgiver, the most ancient historian of all. He was of the tribe of Levi, the son of Amram and Jochabed (Num. 26:59). He was born in Egypt in the seventeenth century before Christ. While yet a babe of three months, he was placed in a basket made of papyrus and covered with pitch, and cast into the streams of the Nile for fear of Pharaoh's decree to the mid-wives of the Hebrews, that all the male children of the Hebrews be put to death. He was taken up from the river by Pharaoh's daughter, became her adopted son, and was reared and dwelt in the King's palace for forty years. Afterward, when he was some sixty years old, he fled to Madian, where, on Mount Horeb, he saw the vision of the burning bush. Thus he was ordained by God to lead Israel and bring it out of the land of Egypt. He led Israel through the Red Sea as it were dry land and governed the people for forty years. He wrought many signs and wonders, and wrote the first five books of the Old Testament, which are called the Pentateuch. When he reached the land of Moab, he ascended Mount Nabau, on the peak called Phasga, and there, by divine command, he reposed in the sixteenth century before Christ, having lived for some 120 years. The first two Odes of the Old Testament, "Let us sing to the Lord" and "Attend, O heaven, and I will speak," were written by him. Of these hymns, the first was chanted by the shore of the Red Sea as soon as the Israelites had crossed it; the second, in the land of Moab, a few days before his repose. The Holy High Priest Aaron was the elder brother of the Holy Prophet Moses. He was appointed by God to serve as the spokesman of Moses before the people, and also before Pharaoh, in Egypt. Afterwards, in the wilderness, he was called to the ministry of the high priesthood, as narrated in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers in the Old Testament. The name Aaron means "enlightened."

### **Holy Prophet Zacharias, Father of the Venerable Forerunner**

**September 05**

According to the opinion of many Fathers of the Church, based on an ancient tradition, this is the Zacharias whom, as our Lord said, the Jews slew between the temple and the altar (Matt. 23:35), first, because even after the Virgin Mary gave birth, he continued to refer to her as virgin and number her among the virgins; second, because Zacharias' son John was not found during the slaughter of the Innocents, since the elderly Elizabeth had taken him and carefully hid him while he was yet an infant, in an unnamed place somewhere in the desert, where, according to the Evangelist, "the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his showing unto Israel" (Luke 1:80). When the child was not found, his father was slain by Herod's command.

### **The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**

**September 08**

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was born of barren and aged parents, Joachim and Anna, about the year 16 or 17 before the birth of Christ. Joachim was descended from the royal line of David, of the tribe of Judah. Anna was of the priestly tribe of Levi, a daughter of the priest Matthan and Mary, his wife.

## Saints of the Month

*continued*

### **The Holy & Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna**

**September 09**

The day following the Nativity of the most holy Theotokos, we celebrate the Synaxis of Saints Joachim and Anna, honoring them as her parents.

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### **Exaltation of the Holy Cross / Saint Stavros**

**September 14**

Saint Helen, the mother of Saint Constantine the Great, when she was already advanced in years, undertook, in her great piety, the hardships of a journey to Jerusalem in search of the cross, about the year 325. After finding the Tomb of our Lord, and three crosses, it was believed that one must be that of our Lord, the other two of the thieves crucified with Him; but Saint Helen was at a loss which one might be the Wood of our salvation. At the inspiration of Saint Macarius, Archbishop of Jerusalem, a lady of Jerusalem, who was already at the point of death from a certain disease, was brought to touch the crosses, and as soon as she came near to the Cross of our Lord, she was made perfectly whole. Consequently, the precious Cross was lifted on high for all to venerate.

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### **Sophia, Faith, Hope, Love**

**September 17**

These Saints were from Italy and contested for the Faith about the year 126, during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian. Faith was twelve years old, Hope, ten, and Love, nine; each was tormented and then beheaded, from the eldest to the youngest. Their mother Sophia mourned at their grave for three days, where she also fell asleep in peace; because of her courageous endurance in the face of her daughters' sufferings, she is also counted a martyr. The name Sophia means "wisdom" in Greek; as for her daughters' names, Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity), they are Pistis, Elpis, and Agape in Greek, and Vera, Nadezhda, and Lyubov in Russian.

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### **Thekla - Equal to the Apostles**

**September 24**

This saint was from the city of Iconium. When she was eighteen years of age, she was instructed in the Faith of Christ and the hope of the resurrection by the Apostle Paul, whom also she followed, forsaking her betrothed and espousing a life of virginity for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. Having preached Christ in various cities and suffered many things, she reposed in Seleucia of Cilicia at the age of 90.

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### **Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian**

**September 26**

This Apostle was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and was the son of Zebedee and Salome, and the brother of James the elder. First a fisherman by trade, he became an Apostle and the beloved Disciple of Christ. Only he of all the Disciples followed Him even to the Cross, and was entrusted with the care of our Savior's Mother, as it were another son to her, and a brother of Christ the Teacher. After this, he preached throughout Asia Minor, especially in Ephesus. When the second persecution against the Christians began in the year 96, he was taken in bonds to Rome, and there was cast into a vat filled to the brim with boiling oil. Coming forth unharmed, he was exiled to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation. Returning again to Ephesus, he wrote his Gospel (after the other Evangelists had already written theirs) and his three Catholic Epistles. In all, he lived ninety-five years and fell asleep in the Lord in the year 100. He was called Theologian because he loftily expounded in his Gospel the theology of the inexpressible and eternal birth of the Son and Word of God the Father. It is for this cause that an eagle—a symbol of the Holy Spirit, is depicted in his icon, one of the four symbolic living creatures that the Prophet Ezekiel saw (Ezek. 1:10).

# Orthodox Calendar

## SEPTEMBER 2018

| SUN  | MON  | TUE  | WED   | THU  | FRI   | SAT  |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|
|  |  |  |   |  |   | 1<br><br><i>Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year</i>   |
| 2<br><br><b>14th Sunday of Matthew</b><br>8:45am Orthros<br>9:45am Memorials<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br><br>1pm Greek Dance   | 3<br><br>Labor Day...<br>Church Office closed                        | 4<br><br>9am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation  | 5<br><br><br>9am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation<br><br>7pm Union Station<br>Philoptochos<br>Outreach           | 6<br><br>9am Festival Pastry<br>Preparation<br><br>7pm Choir Rehearsal   | 7<br><br><br>9am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation  | 8<br><br><i>Nativity of the Theotokos</i><br>9am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br><br>11am Human<br>Trafficking Meeting |
| 9<br><br><b>Sunday before Holy Cross</b><br><br>8:45am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br><br>1pm Greek Dance<br>1pm Personal Finance   | 10<br><br>9am Festival Pastry<br>Preparation                         | 11<br><br>9am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation<br><br>10am VIPs<br><br>7pm PC Meeting                    | 12<br><br><br>9am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation<br><br>7:15pm<br>Philoptochos Board<br>Meeting              | 13<br><br>9am Festival Pastry<br>Preparation<br><br>6pm Great Vespers<br>for the Holy Cross<br><br>7pm Choir Rehearsal | 14<br><br><br><b>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b><br>9am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br>11am Festival<br>Pastry Preparation<br>4pm Friday Greek | 15<br><br>1pm Acolyte Lunch<br>and Training<br><br>Youth Kick-off Event  |
| 16<br><br><b>Sunday after Holy Cross</b><br><br>8:45am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br>1pm Greek Dance<br>1pm Personal Finance   | 17<br><br>9am Festival Pastry<br>Preparation<br><br>4pm Greek School | 18   | 19<br><br>   | 20<br><br>7pm Choir Rehearsal  | 21<br><br><br>5pm Greek Festival<br>                          | 22<br><br>12pm Greek Festival<br>   |
| 23<br><br><b>1st Sunday of Luke</b><br>8:45am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br><br>12pm Greek Festival<br> | 24<br><br>NO Greek School  | 25<br><br>5pm Greek Dance  | 26<br><br><br><i>The Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian</i><br><br>9am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy | 27<br><br>7pm Choir Rehearsal<br><br>7pm Philoptochos<br>General Meeting   | 28<br><br><br>4pm Greek School<br><br>4:15pm Greek<br>School Agiasmos  | 29   |
| 30<br><br><b>2nd Sunday of Luke</b><br>8:45am Orthros<br>10am Divine Liturgy<br>1pm Greek Dance<br>1pm Personal Finance  |  | Strict Fast<br><br> | Fish Allowed<br><br>   | Wine and Oil<br>Allowed<br><br>   | Dairy, Eggs,<br>and Fish<br>Allowed<br><br>  | Fast Free  |

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September 2018

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Always pray to have eyes that  
see the best in people,  
a heart that  
forgives the worst,  
a mind that  
forgets the bad,  
and a soul  
that never loses faith in God.

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