

The Voice of Saint Anthony

SEPTEMBER 2019

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**Deadline for
October Newsletter is
Wednesday, 25 September**
Please send to:
frchris@saint-anthonys.org
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

PRIEST'S MESSAGE**SAINT ANTHONY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Rev. Peter Stratos, Pastor
Rev. Christopher Retelas, Associate Pastor

August 9th, 2019

Dear Members,

I hope and pray you all had a wonderful summer! As September approaches, we are preparing for a new Ecclesiastical Year. All our groups and ministries are hard at work preparing for the 2019-20 year, especially our Church School educators. It is these devoted instructors who are tasked with teaching our children about our Faith, and I wish to commend them for all that they do for our young people. They spend hours, unseen, preparing their curriculum and lessons for our children. They are committed to being in church each Sunday, prepared for your students directly after Holy Communion. I have been reflecting on our upcoming Church School year and want to share with you all some of my thoughts and about this vital ministry.

I would like to begin with how greatly impressed, and deeply moved, I was this past year with our children's attendance for major holy days in the life of our Church, specifically on the Sunday of Orthodoxy and on Holy Wednesday for Holy Unction. I saw children and families at those services who attend regularly and some that I had not seen all year! Their presence at these services reveals a connection to Orthodoxy. These connections to our Orthodox Faith must be strengthened every week. The world is a hard place. The challenges we, as adults, and our children face are significant. Our greatest source of strength is a living relationship with Christ.

As the new ecclesiastical year begins, we have an opportunity to renew our commitment to our Faith. We must all decide that this is the year we each PUT GOD FIRST! Our children learn by watching what we do. Do we make certain that we bring them weekly into God's presence? Do we make certain we show them the importance of Holy Communion and a personal relationship with Christ? Do we show them how to live a sacramental life? A very thorough academic analysis of "faith communities," of all denominations and religions, concluded that the clear indicator of a "Vital Faith Community" is a consistent commitment of the faithful to attend weekly worship services and to bring their children for religious education.

On Sunday, September 8, 2019 we will hold **Church School & Youth Ministries Registration**. I am counting on you to be at Divine Liturgy that day and to register your school-aged children for Church School. After completing Church School Registration, you will also have an opportunity to learn about, and to sign up for, other youth ministries. These other ministries are offered in order to complement Religious Education, not to stand in its place. They serve as a means for our children to further connect and build strong bonds with other Orthodox Christians.

Christ loves your children and calls them to know Him well. Your Church School educators love your children. We love you all and call you to PUT GOD FIRST! Let us ALL PUT GOD FIRST so there can be no doubt that St Anthony is a Vital Faith Community.

In Christ,

Rev. Fr. Peter Stratos

Rev. Christopher Retelas

STEWARDSHIP

ST. ANTHONY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

OUR STEWARDSHIP GOAL: **\$425,000**
274 PLEDGES TOTALING: **\$359,809**
COLLECTED AS OF 8/13/19: **\$288,236**

AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL: **\$1,500**
CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE: **\$1,313**

Breakdown Pledges		
Amount Pledge	# of Pledges	% of Pledges Breakdown
< \$300	46	17%
\$300 - \$499	37	14%
\$500 - \$799	54	20%
\$800 - \$999	8	2.9%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	54	20%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	24	8.8%
\$2,000 - \$2,999	26	9.5%
\$3,000 - \$4,999	11	4.0%
\$5,000 - \$7,999	8	2.9%
\$8,000 - \$9,999	1	0.4%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	4	1.5%
\$15,000 - \$99,999	1	0.4%
TOTAL PLEDGES	274	100%



*NOTE: Our current stewardship goal is \$1,500 per steward/family
RIGHT NOW, 73% OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL*

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Calling all parents, grandparents, godparents, uncles, and aunts!



It's time to register the children in your lives in Church School! We are gearing up for another great year of learning and fellowship at Church School! It is our goal to have **ALL** students registered on Registration Sunday so that we can properly prepare for your children. Please don't put it off for another day.

WHAT: Register for Church School

WHO: All children, age 4-12th grade. (Students must be 4 years old on September 1 to participate in Church School.)

WHEN: September 8

WHERE: Parish Center

WHY: Because you can't wait to let us know you want your children to participate in this vital ministry!

September 15: 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!



2019-2020
CHURCH SCHOOL
REGISTRATION SUNDAY!

September 8, 2019
Parish Center



**Register for
Church School!**

Also, get information on
other youth ministries!



SEE You THERE

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

2005 Looking Forward



Let no one despise you for your youth,
but set the believers an example in
speech, in conduct, in love, in faith,
in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12 English Standard Version

2019 Moving Forward



Myrtobearers 2019

Myrtobearers

I Loved Being a Myrtobearer! Being a Myrtobearer was special because Not a lot of People get to do it. It was fun to do it with my friends. I felt happy because I was going to Jesus and got to throw petals on the Epitaphio. I also got to go on the Solea and be part of the service. I will always Remember that Moment. Alexis S.

Myrtobearers:

I really enjoyed being a Myrtobearer this year because I felt super close to God. I felt this way because when I was on the solea, I felt I had a part in church. Also, the song helped me understand the meaning of Lent. I felt singing that song was like talking to God. Since I'm older and I feel like I really understand being a Myrtobearer I can teach my sister about Lent. I am very thankful I got this opportunity! It is crazy to think that my mom was a Myrtobearer too growing up. Thank You. Have a nice Summer!

Love,
Maria



Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not
depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)



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

***“You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.”
Deuteronomy 15:11***

Union Station Homeless Services

In 1973 a group of community volunteers opened Union Station as a simple hospitality center to serve poor and homeless men in downtown Pasadena. Since then, Union Station has grown..

Under the guidance of Philoptochos for over 25 years our community has participated once a month (rain or shine, holiday or no holiday) providing and serving hot meals for about 50-60 individuals fulfilling what is written in **Hebrews13:16**:

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

Food is prepared in our kitchen, and then delivered to the center. Other necessities will be purchased and taken to the facility.

Members of our church and our youth groups are encouraged to sign up for one or more month to serve. It only takes one and a half hour of your time.

Contact:

Stephanie Soewers	szanglis@aol.com	626-914-1000 (home)
Sophia Angelos	sangelos2000@gmail.com	626-795-0848 (home)
Irene Albeck	mcmg2a@aol.com	626-792-8122



PHILOPTOCHOS (CONTINUED)**PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:**

The first general meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, **September 25**, at 7pm, at St. Anthony.

The main dish will be provided, and the side dishes will be pot luck. Please come for an evening of fellowship with your Philoptochos friends.

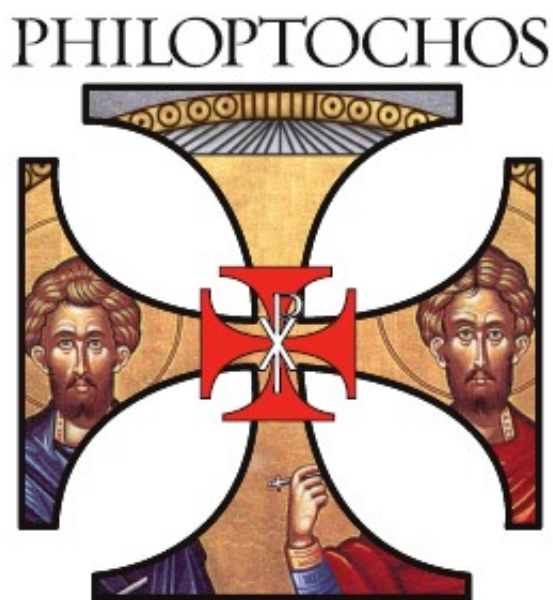
If you haven't paid your membership, please do so.

The next committee meeting for the 50th Benefit Luncheon will be on Monday, **September 9**, at 7:15 at St. Anthony.

The 2019 Philoptochos Fall Spiritual Conference will be on Friday, **September 20—22** at Saint Nicholas Ranch. For further information call **Maria Kypreos** : 626 272-2720.

Please consider being a part of Philoptochos, we would love to have you and your talents be a part of this wonderful organization. We have projects that reach out to our community at large - our Metropolis and our National Philoptochos. If you need more information about our Philoptochos please call **Maria Kypreos**: 626 272-2720.

Hope to see you at our next meeting!



VIP NEWS

The VIPs have been very busy!

Sunday, June 9th after church

We visited the Pacific Asia Museum to view the "Modern Kabuki Prints".

Thursday, July 18th

We took a trip by van to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach

Tuesday, August 13th, after our meeting,

We played Bingo with prizes - see photo

Sunday, August 25th,

We attended the Sierra Madre Playhouse to see "The Joy Luck Club".

Upcoming events...

Tuesday, September 10th

No meeting!!!

Tuesday, October 8th – 10:00 a.m.

Meeting in the Trinity Ballroom - Lunch to follow

Thursday, October 17th

Trip to Graber Olive House in Ontario (carpools)

Friday, October 25th

Trip to St. Demetrios in Camarillo for Vespers

Must sign up ASAP if you are interested (Van \$20 per person)

Tuesday, November 12th – 10:00 a.m.

Meeting in the Trinity Ballroom

Thursday, November 14th

Trip to Rogers Gardens in Costa Mesa (transportation TBA)

Monday, December 9th (Monday) – 10:00 am.

Breakfast Meeting at the Monrovia Restaurant

If you are interested in joining us or if you have any questions, please contact me.

Helen Treantafelles, VIP President

htreantafelles@yahoo.com

626/339-1338 (home#)



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

Irene Albeck - Preschool
Nikolitsa Vagenas - Preschool
Kathy Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
Kyriaki Tsigkounis - Kindergarten & 1st
Fotene Trigonis - 2nd & 3rd
John Vagenas - 4th & 5th
Maria Pappas - Middle School/6th—8th
Pres. Aida Stratos - High School/9th—12th

Fotene Trigonis - Director



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

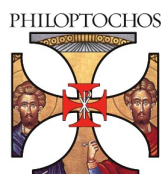
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

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 Demopulos
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

Aliko Haralambos

Vacation Bible School

Sophia Syrengelas
Mary Udria

VIPs

Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults

Mike Abi Farah



COMMUNITY NEWS

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



2019 GREEK FESTIVAL FOOD PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Cooking will start at **9am** and lunch will be provided. Ending times may vary depending on the items being prepared and the number of volunteers who attend.

Please join us, even if you only have a couple of hours. We can't do it without you! We look forward to seeing you.



Tuesday, September 3

Wednesday, September 4

Thursday, September 5

Saturday, September 7

Monday, September 9

Tuesday, September 10

Wednesday, September 11

Thursday, September 12

Koulourakia

Kourambiethes/Melomacarona

Kataifi/Floyeres

Galaktobourekio

Baklava

Diples

Pasta Flora/Paximadia

Meloma



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

2019 Greek Orthodox Church Festivals of Southern California

DATE	CHURCH	PHONE	LOCATION	SPECIAL NOTES
17 May 3-10pm 18 May 12-10pm 19 May 12-10pm	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
25 May 1-9pm 26 May 1-9pm 27 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
1 June 11-10pm 2 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
7 June 5-10pm 8 June 11-10pm 9 June 11-8pm	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
21 June 5-10pm 22 June 11-10pm 23 June 11-9pm	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
28 June 5-10 pm 29 June 12-10 pm 30 June 12-9 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
12 July 5-10pm 13 July 12-10pm 14 July 12-9pm	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	Church Grounds Outdoors Covered dancing on blacktop
27 July 11-7pm 28 July 11-7pm	Saint Barbara 1205 San Antonio Creek Rd Santa Barbara, 93101	805.683.4492	Oak Park, Santa Barbara 101 North through Santa Barbara; Exit Pueblo and follow signs to park	City Park Outdoors Uncovered dancing on wood floor
23 August 5-10p 24 August 12-10p 25 August 12-10p	Saint Nectarios 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
31 August 12-10pm 1 September 12-10pm 2 September 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
7 September 10-10p 8 September 11-9p	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
20 September 5-10p 21 September 12-10p 22 September 12-9p	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
20 September 5-9pm 21 September 11-9pm 22 September 12-5pm	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
27 September 5-10pm 28 September 3-11pm 29 September 12-10p	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 11-11p 29 September 11-10p	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
4 October 5-12pm 5 October 12-11pm 6 October 12-10pm	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
12 October 11-9pm 13 October 11-8pm	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
19 October 12-10pm 20 October 12-9pm	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
2020 TBD 15 February 11-8pm 16 February 11-8pm	St. George of the Desert 14-109 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

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

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)

Saint Sophia Camp Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, 4 October 2019
California Country Club, Whittier

Golfer Registration includes:
Golf, Brunch, Gift Bag, Barbecue, Beverages and Dinner

Non-Golfer Dinner Registration includes:
Dinner, Games and Fellowship

Silent Auction, Putting Contest, 50-50 Game, Raffle and No-host Bar

Schedule of Events

10:30 am	Check-in and Silent Auction bidding Brunch - complimentary California Country Club Patio	5:30 pm	Cocktails (<i>no host bar</i>) California Country Clubhouse Lounge
12:00 pm	Putting Contest	6:30 pm	Dinner - Main ballroom
1:00 pm	Shotgun Start	7:30 pm	Awards, Silent Auction and Grand Raffle

Registration is open !

Register Online: 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

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

September 01

For the maintenance of their armed forces, the Roman emperors decreed that their subjects in every district should be taxed every year. This same decree was reissued every fifteen years, since the Roman soldiers were obliged to serve for fifteen years. At the end of each fifteen-year period, an assessment was made of what economic changes had taken place and a new tax was decreed, which was to be paid over the span of the fifteen years. This imperial decree, which was issued before the season of winter, was named Indictio, that is, Definiton, or Order. This name was adopted by the emperors in Constantinople also. At other times, the latter also used the term Epinemesis, that is, Distribution (Dianome).

It is commonly held that Saint Constantine the Great introduced the Indiction decrees in A.D. 312, after he beheld the sign of the Cross in heaven and vanquished Maxentius and was proclaimed Emperor in the West. Some, however (and this seems more likely), ascribe the institution of the Indiction to Augustus Caesar, three years before the birth of Christ. Those who hold this view offer as proof the papal bull issued in A.D. 781 which is dated thus: Anno IV, Indictionis LIII -that is, the fourth year of the fifty-third Indiction.

From this, we can deduce the aforementioned year (3 B.C.) by multiplying the fifty-two complete Indictions by the number of years in each (15), and adding the three years of the fifty-third Indiction. There are three types of Indictions: 1) That which was introduced in the West, and which is called Imperial, or Caesarean, or Constantinian, and which begins on the 24th of September; 2) The so-called Papal Indiction, which begins on the 1st of January; and 3) The Constantinopolitan, which was adopted by the Patriarchs of that city after the fall of the Eastern Empire in 1453. This Indiction is indicated in their own hand on the decrees they issue, without the numeration of the fifteen years.

This Indiction begins on the **1st of September** and is observed with special ceremony in the Church. Since the completion of each year takes place, as it were, with the harvest and gathering of the crops into storehouses, and we begin anew from henceforth the sowing of seed in the earth for the production of future crops, September is considered the beginning of the New Year. The Church also keeps festival this day, beseeching God for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth. The Holy Scriptures (Lev. 23:24-5 and Num. 29:1-2) also testify that the people of Israel celebrated the feast of the Blowing of the Trumpets on this day, offering hymns of thanksgiving. In addition to all the aforesaid, on this feast we also commemorate our Saviour's entry into the synagogue in Nazareth, where He was given the book of the Prophet Esaias to read, and He opened it and found the place where it is written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for which cause He hath anointed Me..." (Luke 4:16-30).

It should be noted that to the present day, the Church has always celebrated the beginning of the New Year on September 1. This was the custom in Constantinople until its fall in 1453 and in Russia until the reign of Peter I. September 1 is still festively celebrated as the New Year at the Patriarchate of Constantinople; among the Jews also the New Year, although reckoned according to a moveable calendar, usually falls in September. The service of the Menaion for January 1 is for our Lord's Circumcision and for the memorial of Saint Basil the Great, without any mention of its being the beginning of a new year.

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.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

The Holy & Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna

September 09

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

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.

Sophia, Faith, Hope, Love

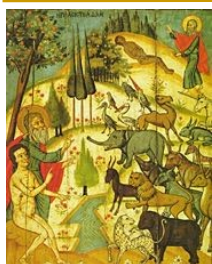
September 17

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.

Falling Asleep of Saint 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 during the reign of Domitian, 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 after the death of the tyrant, 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 during the reign of Trajan 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, as Saint Irenaeus says-is depicted in his icon, for this was one of the four symbolic living creatures that the Prophet Ezekiel saw (Ezek. 1:10).



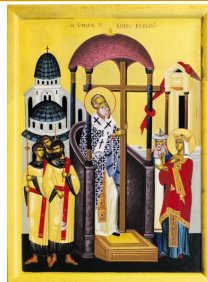
**Ecclesiastical
New Year**



**Nativity of the
Theotokos**



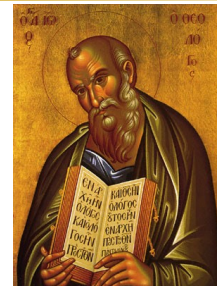
Joachim & Anna



**Exaltation of the
Holy Cross**



**Sophia, Faith,
Hope & Love**



**Falling Asleep of
Saint John**

Orthodox Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year</i> 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:30 Dance Practice	2	3 9am Festival Food Prep 7:30pm AHEPA Meeting	 4 9am Festival Food Prep 7pm Philoptochos Union Station	5 9am Festival Food Prep 7pm Choir rehearsal	 6 6:30pm Fellowship Friday	7 9am Festival Food Prep
8 <i>Nativity of the Theotokos</i> 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Youth Registration 12:30 Dance Practice 7pm Financial Peace	9 9am Festival Food Prep	10 9am Festival Food Prep	 11 9am Festival Food Prep 7:15pm Philoptochos Board Meeting	12 9am Festival Food Prep 7pm Choir rehearsal	 13 6pm Great Vespers for Holy Cross	 14 <i>Exhalation of Holy Cross</i> 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy
15 <i>Sunday after Holy Cross</i> 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:30 Dance Practice 12:30 Dance Parents 7pm Financial Peace	16	17	 18	19 7pm Choir rehearsal	 20 2019 Pasadena Greek Fest	21
22 <i>1st Sunday of Luke</i> 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Pasadena Greek Fest	23	24	 25 5pm Greek Dance Practice 6pm Greek Dance Practice 7pm Philoptochos General Meeting	26 <i>Saint John the Theologian</i> 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 7pm Choir rehearsal	 27	28
29 <i>2nd Sunday of Luke</i> 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:30 Dance Practice 7pm Financial Peace	30					
		Strict Fast 	Fish Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed 	Fast Free



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TIME SENSITIVE

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The Gospel Book

At every Liturgy we read from one of the four Gospels: Mark, Luke, Matthew and John, all of which were written to convey the life, teachings, crucifixion and resurrection from the dead of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ.



Adorned out of reverence and largely kept on the altar, the Gospel Book contains *not* the whole Bible but *only* the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It is a sacramental embodiment of Christ and in the Liturgy is kissed and treated like an icon of Christ, an icon written in words not paint. Traditionally, the bringing out of the Gospels during the Liturgy is said by St. Nicholas Cabasilas, a 14th century mystic and saint, to represent the coming of Christ into the world and His manifestation to the crowds of people who followed Him. The entrance hymn sung by the clergy, taken from Psalm 95:6, professes what our response ought to be to the Lord Jesus: "come let us worship and bow down before Christ."

The centrality of the Gospels in the Liturgy of the Word and their placement on the altar impresses upon us that Christ is the center of the Church and that Christ ought to be the center of our lives. It is through the Gospels that we come to know who Christ is.