

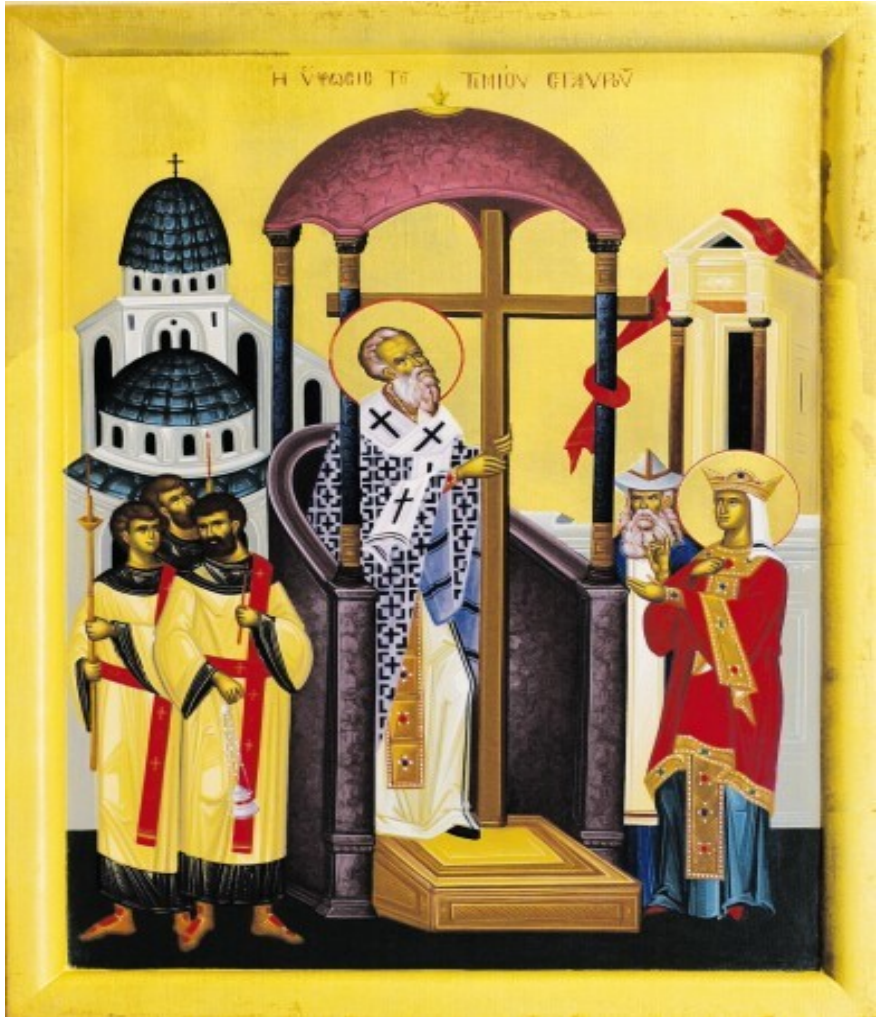
The Voice of Saint Anthony

SEPTEMBER 2020

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**Deadline for
October Newsletter is
Friday, 25 September
Please send to:
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

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you; and be merciful to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." Numbers: 6:24-26.

As September 1st approaches, we wish our entire St Anthony community a blessed new ecclesiastical year! It is on this day each year that we celebrate the beginning of the Orthodox Church calendar year. His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew always prepares an encyclical for the faithful to begin the ecclesiastical new year. (Please refer to his encyclical on page 4 of this newsletter). He brings to light that we all should be good stewards of our environment, to help preserve this world. This year's encyclical draws greater attention to our young men and women to join in this moral struggle for the preservation of life on our planet.

As a world, we are living in a turbulent time:

For more than six months now, we have battled a global pandemic. COVID-19 has had a particularly devastating effect on the United States. As of this writing, more than 6 million have been infected and more than 183,000 Americans have died. New scientific modeling just released predicts 312,000 American deaths by December 1, 2020. Do not expect this pandemic to end anytime soon. I know we all want this to be over. I know we all want to return to some sort of normalcy in our lives. However, it will not happen if we become complacent and do not continue to follow protocols. **Remember, wear a mask, social distance, and wash your hands often. Finally, do not gather!**

Our state of California, especially Northern California, is being engulfed by raging wildfires caused by numerous lightning strikes. At one time, there were more than 360 fires raging simultaneously in our beautiful state. And the fire season has just begun.

An extremely dangerous hurricane, Laura, a category-4 storm, devastated parts of Texas and Louisiana. We have just begun the hurricane season with more storms to follow. Temperatures in areas of the greater Atlantic Ocean are now higher than 90 degrees. The higher the ocean temperature, the more violent storms and hurricanes become.

Extreme weather is the new norm, as climate change and the unprecedented warming and melting of vast glaciers in the polar regions continues to affect our country and the world. A few weeks ago Death Valley recorded the hottest temperature ever at 130 degrees Fahrenheit. On that day, the San Gabriel Valley registered a temperature of 108 degrees.

If you tune in to the news in the evening, you will likely come away saddened and depressed. So what can we do as a Church community to remain positive and inspired?

The most important thing is for all of us to stay connected in some way with our church and our living Orthodox faith. With state regulations not allowing in person services in houses of worship and not permitting gatherings, we must make adjustments. We are beginning to implement more adjustments for our community, and will continue to be as innovative as possible this new ecclesiastical year.

Since August 15, we have held Divine Liturgies outside (8:45 am) under the covering of our ballroom patio. We can socially distance about 30 people with masks who adhere to all of the Los Angeles County Health Department protocols. At the completion of the outdoor Divine Liturgy, Fr. Christopher and I proceed to the Church to serve a livestream Divine Liturgy for all the faithful at home. Because we are blessed to have two priests in our parish, we are able to celebrate two Liturgies in the same day. One is the celebrant outside and the other celebrates the second Liturgy in church for livestream each Sunday. This adjustment satisfies those who wish to attend in person and those who wish to attend virtually.

We have also celebrated two outdoor Baptisms for a limited number of attendees -following all LAHD protocols. These services have worked very well outside. Because of the blessing of many new babies in our parish, we have purchased a portable baptismal font to accommodate a number of baptisms scheduled this fall!

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

We are also currently planning for Church school, Greek school, youth ministries, Bible studies, and Faith studies, all available virtually this fall. Our mission is to stay connected, as best we can, under these difficult circumstances.

For our community to stay connected, we need your help!

- *Celebrate the Liturgy either in person or virtually every Sunday.
- *Continue to pray at home as a family.
- *Participate in our online and zoom ministries, as they are made available.

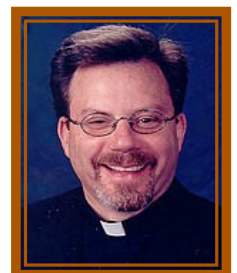
We must all do our part! In spite of all the problems we face today in our state, country, and world we can and will persevere. Stay connected to your church that we may continue in the Saint Anthony Parish spirit of unity and love.

Follow these words written by St Paul to the Ephesians:

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all." (Ephesians 4: 4-6)

In Christ,

Fr Peter



PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

+ B A R T H O L O M E W

BY GOD'S MERCY ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE-NEW ROME

AND ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH

TO ALL THE PLENITUDE OF THE CHURCH GRACE, PEACE AND MERCY

FROM THE MAKER OF ALL CREATION

OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Dearest brother Hierarchs and beloved children in the Lord,

It is a shared conviction that, in our time, the natural environment is threatened like never before in the history of humankind. The magnitude of this threat becomes manifest in the fact that what is at stake is not anymore the quality, but the preservation of life on our planet. For the first time in history, man is capable of destroying the conditions of life on earth. Nuclear weapons are the symbol of man's Promethean titanism, the tangible expression of the "complex of omnipotence" of the contemporary "man-god."

In using the power that stems from science and technology, what is revealed today is the ambivalence of man's freedom. Science serves life; it contributes to progress, to confronting illnesses and many conditions that were hitherto considered "fateful"; it creates new positive perspectives for the future. However, at the same time, it provides man with all-powerful means, whose misuse can be turned destructive. We are experiencing the unfolding destruction of the natural environment, of biodiversity, of flora and fauna, of the pollution of aquatic resources and the atmosphere, the progressing collapse of climate balance, as well as other excesses of boundaries and measures in many dimensions of life. The Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church (Crete, 2016) rightly and splendidly decreed that "scientific knowledge does not mobilize the moral will of man, who knows the dangers but continues to act as if he did not know." (*Encyclical*, § 11)

It is apparent that the protection of the common good, of the integrity of the natural environment, is the common responsibility of all inhabitants of the earth. The contemporary categorical imperative for humankind is that we live without destroying the environment. However, while on a personal level and on the level of many communities, groups, movements and organizations, there is a demonstration of great sensitivity and ecological responsibility, nations and economic agents are unable – in the name of geopolitical ambitions and the "autonomy of the economy" – to adopt the correct decisions for the protection of creation and instead cultivate the illusion that the pretended "global ecological destruction" is an ideological fabrication of ecological movements and that the natural environment has the power of renewing itself. Yet the crucial question remains: How much longer will nature endure the fruitless discussions and consultations, as well as any further delay in assuming decisive actions for its protection?

The fact that, during the period of the pandemic of the novel coronavirus Covid-19, with the mandatory restrictions of movement, the shutdown of factories, and the diminishment in industrial activity and production, we observed a reduction of pollution and encumbrance of the atmosphere, has proved the anthropogenic nature of the contemporary ecological crisis. It became once again clear that industry, the contemporary means of transportation, the automobile and the airplane, the non-negotiable priority of economic indicators and the like, negatively impact the environmental balance and that a change of direction toward an ecological economy constitutes an unwavering necessity. There is no genuine progress that is founded on the destruction of the natural environment.

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

It is inconceivable that we adopt economic decisions without also taking into account their ecological consequences. Economic development cannot remain a nightmare for ecology. We are certain that there is an alternative way of economic structure and development besides the economism and the orientation of economic activity toward the maximization of profiteering. The future of humanity is not the *homo æconomicus*.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate, which in recent decades has pioneered in the field of the protection of the creation, will continue its ecological initiatives, the organization of ecological conferences, the mobilization of its faithful and especially the youth, the promotion of the environment's protection as a fundamental subject for interreligious dialogue and the common initiatives of religions, the contacts with political leaders and institutions, the cooperation with environmental organizations and ecological movements. It is evident that the collaboration for the protection of the environment creates additional avenues of communication and possibilities for new common actions.

We repeat that the environmental activities of the Ecumenical Patriarchate are an extension of its ecclesiological self-consciousness and do not comprise a simple circumstantial reaction to a new phenomenon. The very life of the Church is an applied ecology. The sacraments of the Church, its entire life of worship, its asceticism and communal life, the daily life of its faithful, express and generate the deepest respect for creation. The ecological sensitivity of Orthodoxy was not created by but emerged from the contemporary environmental crisis. The struggle for the protection of creation is a central dimension of our faith. Respect for the environment is an act of doxology of God's name, while the destruction of creation is an offense against the Creator, entirely irreconcilable with the basic tenets of Christian theology.

Most honorable brothers and dearly beloved children,

The ecofriendly values of the Orthodox tradition, the precious legacy of the Fathers, constitute an embankment against the culture, whose axiological foundation is the domination of man over nature. Faith in Christ inspires and strengthens the human endeavor even before the immense challenges. From the perspective of faith, we are able to discover and assess not only the problematic dimensions, but also the positive possibilities and prospects of contemporary civilization. We call upon Orthodox young men and women to realize the significance of living as faithful Christians and contemporary people. Faith in the eternal destiny of man strengthens our witness in the world.

In this spirit, from the Phanar, we wish all of you a propitious and all-blessed new ecclesiastical year, fruitful in Christ-like deeds, for the benefit of all creation and to the glory of the all-wise Creator of all. And we invoke upon you, through the intercessions of the All-Holy Theotokos, the *Pammakaristos*, the grace and mercy of the God of wonders.

September 1, 2020

+Bartholomew of Constantinople

Fervent suppliant of all before God

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

August 25, 2020
via e-mail

*The Recovery of the Holy Relics of the
Holy Apostle Bartholomew*

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and
The Faithful of the Metropolis of San Francisco

Your Eminence, Beloved Brother in the Lord and
Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am writing to you from the Sacred Center of our Faith, the Phanar, where I have been keeping His All-Holiness and the entire Patriarchal Court abreast of the horrendous fires sweeping through California. In the midst of the pandemic, we have yet one more disaster to overcome. I want you all to know that the prayers of all the faithful here and across the Archdiocese are being lifted up to the Throne of God on your behalf, that you may be kept safe and sound from the devastation that surrounds you.

The sheer number and size of the blazes across the state, which now exceed the size of the State of Delaware, are cause for great anxiety and concern. This is why now, in the moments when we are feeling most afraid and vulnerable, we implore Almighty God and His Holy Mother on behalf of you all, and on behalf of the brave firefighters who are risking their very lives to protect their fellow citizens. Indeed, I write to you on a most auspicious day, when we celebrate the Recovery of the Holy Relics of the Apostle Bartholomew, the heavenly patron of our Ecumenical Patriarch. Those Relics survived the storms of the sea to arrive safely upon the shores of the Island of Lipari, traveling an incredibly great distance.

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

We pray for your strength and resilience during these difficult days, and that through the intercessions of Saint Bartholomew, the Apostle, the waters that bore his earthly remains to the safe harbor of veneration may be assumed into the skies over California, and rained down upon you to cool the flames and bring healing to the land.

With many prayers and love in our Lord Jesus Christ,



+ ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

8 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075-0192 · Telephone: (212) 570-3500 · Fax: (212) 570-3569
Web Site: www.goarch.org

PRIEST'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE OF ANY KIND**

due to limitations caused by the CoViD pandemic or the state and local "Safer at Home" ordinances, your community is here to help.

If you need assistance with groceries (picking up or paying for them), getting a prescription from the pharmacy, or even taking out trash cans, please let us know how your community can help during a time of need.

We are available to assist or coordinate assistance if we cannot provide it ourselves (masks and social distancing will be practiced).

Please CALL or TEXT:

Sherese Akrotirianakis 310.308.1431

Sophia Syrengelas 626.641.0335

Mary Udria 626.390.1680

Everything will be held in confidence.



STEWARDSHIP

ST. ANTHONY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

283 PLEDGES TOTALING: **\$455,845**
COLLECTED AS OF 8/25/2020: **\$384,821**

AVERAGE PLEDGE GOAL: **\$2,000**
CURRENT AVERAGE PLEDGE: ***\$1,610***

Breakdown of Stewardship/Annual Giving to the Church			
Stewardship Levels	Total Annual Giving to the Church	Number of Pledges/families	% of Pledges Breakdown
<i>Contributor</i>	\$0 - \$499	72	25%
<i>Friend</i>	\$500 - \$999	65	23%
<i>Supporter</i>	\$1,000 - \$1,999	69	24%
Faithful	\$2,000 - \$3,999	48	17%
Disciple	\$4,000 - \$6,999	21	7%
Guardian	\$7,000 - \$9,999	3	1%
Angel	\$10,000 - \$14,999	3	1%
Archangel	\$15,000 and up	2	1%
TOTAL ANNUAL PLEDGES		283	100%

To fully cover our operating expenses, our goal is to have our average annual giving be \$2,000 per family or more

RIGHT NOW, 73% OF OUR STEWARDS ARE UNDER THAT GOAL

CHURCH HISTORY

Early Greek Community of Pasadena & the San Gabriel Valley

Taken from the 50th Anniversary of St. Anthony. Written by: +Dr. Nikitas J. Tripodes

First San Gabriel Valley Greeks

Large scale Greek migration to the United States did not begin until the late 19th century through the early 1920s. Records from Ellis Island, New York, the main port of entry for European immigrants, reveal very few Greek immigrants had listed any Southern California city as their intended destination. Many Greek immigrants found jobs as laborers in Eastern cities and then worked their way west in mining jobs or on the railroad gangs. Although many returned to Eastern cities or to Greece, some decided to settle in Southern California. Many of the first Greek immigrants to Los Angeles were first employed as waiters at the Alexandria Hotel and as laborers for the gas company. Eventually, many would own their own business such as restaurants, candy stores, shoe shine parlors, pool halls and markets.

Most of the early Greek immigrants who came to Pasadena worked as laborers anywhere they would find work, but strove for self-employment. Greek immigrants in Pasadena began opening candy stores beginning in the late 1890s. By 1907 rival confectionery stores operated by the Legakes Brothers (James and Constantine) and John Heliotes were on Colorado Boulevard. Both Constantine Legakes and John Heliotes were founders of the first Greek Orthodox Church in Los Angeles.

First Greek Orthodox Church in Los Angeles

The Greek Community of Los Angeles was incorporated of June 14, 1908, for the main purpose of building a church and also for establishing a Greek language school, a Greek Orthodox cemetery and other cultural and religious institutions. The first church was in a warehouse in the ethnic melting pot of Boyle Heights with infrequent services conducted by visiting priests from San Francisco. The problem of having no permanent priest was resolved in late 1908 by the Alexakis brothers, George and Louis, who literally resorted to kidnapping. Father George Koutouzis was in route from San Francisco to Florida where he was being transferred. When Papa Koutouzis' train stopped in Los Angeles, he was "coerced" to get off by the Alexakis brothers. George took him to lunch and Louis took his suit cases. He stayed for 13 years.

The small Greek Orthodox population in the San Gabriel Valley was served by the Los Angeles church. By 1912, the Evangelismos tis Theotokou, (The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary) opened on San Julian Street near what is now Skid Row. This remained the only Greek Orthodox Church in Los Angeles until St. Sophia Cathedral was dedicated in 1952. The original Annunciation Church, commonly called the "San Julian Street Church" after the street address, was tenaciously kept open for several years after St. Sophia's opening by a determined group of litigious parishioners. The "San Julian Street Church" was sold in May 1956, its articles of incorporation dissolved in 1958.

CHURCH HISTORY

Greek Business in Pasadena in the 1920s

Unlike many Eastern and Mid-Western United State cities there was never a residential "Greektown" in Los Angeles. However, by the 1920s there was a flourishing commercial center near Fourth and Los Angeles Streets. In Pasadena, a similar "commercial center" of Greek owned businesses was clustered near the intersection of Fair Oaks Avenue and Colorado Boulevard. For most of Pasadena's early history its main thoroughfares were Fair Oaks Avenue, running north and south and its great east-west boulevard and Rose Parade route, Colorado Boulevard. The intersection of these two arteries was the heart of Pasadena's business community. From the opening of Peter Vasiliou's confectionery store in 1897 and for decades thereafter, Greek owned businesses tenaciously stayed close to this intersection. In 1921. Pasadena Greek owned businesses consisted of three confectioners, five bootblacks (shoe shine stands or parlors), a coffee house, barber shop, a hat cleaner almost all within two blocks of Colorado Boulevard and Fair Oaks Avenue.

Pasadena's Greek Owned Businesses 1920-1921

Gianopulos, John/Spiropoulos, William	Alex Hat Cleaning & Bootblack	31 E. Colorado Blvd.
Gianopulos, James	Bootblack	37 E. Colorado Blvd
Heliotes, J.K.	Confectioner	9 N. Fair Oaks Ave
Legakes, J.P.	Confectioner	46 E. Colorado Blvd
Rapanos, Peter	Bootblack	14 W. Colorado Blvd.
Tamplos, Thomas C.	Confectioner	3 S. Fair Oaks Ave.
Vagenas, Gust	Bootblack	48 E. Colorado Blvd
Vaselacopulos, George	Bootblack	116 E. Colorado Blvd.
Vaselacopulos, Vasili	Coffee house & Barber shop	19 E. Colorado Blvd.



Peter Vasilion, right, with son William P. Vasilion (unknown man on left), c. 1910. William P. Vasilion was born in Pasadena in 1900 above his father's candy store near the corner of Fair Oaks and Colorado. He was probably the first Greek Orthodox child born in Southern California.



Pasadena Greeks gathering at a local home. c.1917

The young boy on the left (first row) is Basil "James" Glavas. The young girl next to him is Virginia Dolkas Zane in the lap of her father Theodore Dolkas, who is next to his wife Constantina, and daughter Alexandra Dolkas Lafkas. Constantine Dolkas, a cousin of Theodore, is standing behind Constantina Dolkas. Others in the photo are unknown.



Early Greek families of Pasadena c.1915

Mary Camperos is in the foreground with her daughters Katherine and Dina. Nearest the house is Constantina Dolkas with her two daughters Alexandra Dolkas Lafkas (seated) and Virginia Dolkas Zane (on right). The Camperos' and Dolkas' lived on Congress Street, near Fair Oaks Ave., and were among Pasadena's first Greek families.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

No report this month

For those of you who are attending live-stream services,
and miss receiving Holy Communion because you are unable to
attend an outdoor liturgy..

Here is a tip...

When the priest approaches with the Chalice, take a sip of Holy
Water.. If you don't have any on hand, call the church office..

NEWS FROM THE LOFT



Staying Out of the Loft and Staying Safe..

As the month of September ushers in a new ecclesiastical year,

"In peace let us pray to the Lord."

"Lord, have mercy."

"For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, and from the peril of the coronavirus against us, let us pray to the Lord."

"Lord, have mercy."

"For our brethren and those who lead the fight against the coronavirus, the doctors, the medical workers, and the scientists, let us pray to the Lord."

"Lord, have mercy."

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

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

Be patient... in God's time we will all be
together...



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS**Camp Yiayia**

I entered a mysterious world I know little about - technology. I thought if one hit enough keys it would magically know what I wanted. Thank you, Father Christopher and Niko for your guidance into this puzzling world. Thank you Maria Syrengelas for being a junior counselor.

It gladdened my heart to have so many children login. I became aware of the vast difference between distant and physical understanding. I am going back to the drawing board with the help of Niko to develop further activities. This was a trial run of what works and what does not work.

Our camp began with a lesson on Proosphoron by Father Christopher. We continued with a home scavenger hunt, number bingo, three seconds to name three things in a specific category, thumbs up when a certain number of seconds passed, and freeze when the music stopped.

Papou went to the store to buy ice cream for breakfast and candy for his pockets. It's a secret—don't tell mom or dad.

God bless your families, keep safe and we pray their school year will be successful with your patience and persistence.

Mrs. Albeck, Niko Udria and Maria Syrengelas

I love my Yiayia



I love my Papou



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)**Camp Yiayia**

We had a great time together on our Virtual Camp Yiayia on Sunday, August 9th! The children learned more about prosphora, shared some Bible verses and lessons, and had a great time playing some games and talking together. Many thanks to Yiayia Irene and our technical assistant, Niko!"

Here are some pictures of us enjoying camp from a distance..



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS (CONTINUED)

Camp Yiayia



See you again at the next Yiayia and Papou Camp

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS



UNION STATION HOMELESS SERVICES

Irene Albeck and **Noula Serban** have resumed preparing meals for **Union Station** the first Wednesday of the month. The meals have to be delivered in individual servings during CoViD; hence, the monthly cost has increased. Donations of heavy duty plates, napkins, paper towels or store bought cookies would be very much appreciated.

Please contact **Irene Albeck - 626.792.8122** to make arrangements for items to be picked up if you care to donate.

Philoptochos continues to support our local food bank, **Friends In Deed**, with a monthly donation.

PLEASE NOTE

Non-food donations can be delivered to our **Administrative Office**

825 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91104

Monday-Friday between 9:00am-4:30pm.

All food donations (perishable and non-perishable) can be delivered to the **Adult Center**

412 S. Raymond Ave. Pasadena, CA 91105.

The Adult Center is open for donations from 8:00am-2:30pm.

IN-KIND DONATION NEEDS

Adult Diapers

Baby diapers and baby formula

Clorox or Lysol Wipes

Disinfectant Spray

Laundry basket and laundry soap

Laundry pods and quarters

New pillows and blankets

New and gently used books

Puzzles, activity books for adults and children

Personal and feminine products

KITCHEN NEEDS

BBQ sauce

Corn cooking oil

Flour tortillas to make burritos

Frozen burritos

Frozen has brown patties

Individual coffee packets

Individual creamer packets

Individual sugar packets

Microwaveable dinners

Sliced American cheese

Teriyaki glaze

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)

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

“Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you? The King will answer and say to you, inasmuch as did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” Matthew 25:40, 41

Union Station Homeless Services

We have dispensed with people volunteering to serve at the facility, however we continue our monthly commitment to prepare a hardy, nutritious dinner meal. We have generous donors to cover the meals. USHS has requested packaged dessert (cookies), single serve beverages (10 oz.) and single serve bottles of milk. You may continue to volunteer by donating toward purchasing individual packaged items. The following is an estimated cost: rolls-\$16.50, cookies, \$27.50, beverage, \$48.60, and milk, \$10.80.

Please make checks out to: *Philoptochos of Saint Anthony*

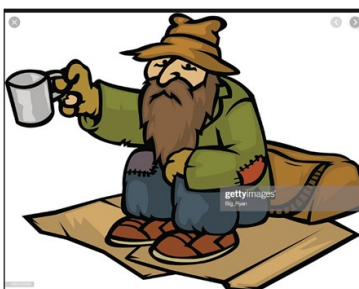
In memo box write: USHS

Thank you for being a part of the solution to homelessness.

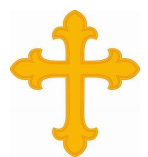
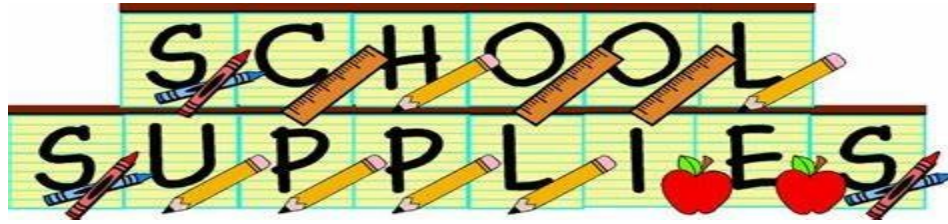
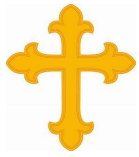
“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16

Contact:

Sophia Angelos	sangelos2000@gmail.com	626-795-0848 (home)
Stephanie Soewers	szanglis@gmail.com	818-209-5026 (cell)
Irene Albeck	mcmg2a@aol.com	626-792-8122



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (CONTINUED)



Philoptochos of Saint Anthony with the support of the community is collecting school supplies for local charitable agencies.

This event is in collaboration with the
Greek Orthodox Ladies National Philoptochos Society
"Operation Classroom"

Suggested list:

Glue sticks
 Crayons
 Pencils #2
 Composition books
 Notebooks
 Notebook paper (college rule and standard)
 Folders with prongs
 Colored Highlighters
 Pink or white block erasers
 Paper clips
 Sticky notes
 Rulers
 Colored pencils
 Hand-held pencil sharpeners
 Student planners
 Note cards lined 3 X5

Three ring binders
 Spiral notebooks
 Colored pencils
 Colored markers
 Stapler with staples
 Tape

The following items facilitate remote learning

Dry erase boards 8 1/2 by 11
 Dry erasers
 Face masks (child size)
 Hand sanitizers
 Disinfectant wipes
 Ear buds



Collection dates:

Sunday, September 13 - National Grandparent Day

Monday, September 14 - Elevation of the Cross

VIP NEWS

The VIPs are meeting again this month:

ZOOM HAPPY HOUR

Tuesday, September 8th, at 2:00 p.m.



Helen Treantafelles
VIP President
htreantafelles@yahoo.com



MINISTRIES

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos

Reverend Father Christopher Retelas

2020 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joseph Akrotirianakis	President
John Vidalakis	Co-Vice President
Pete Gallanis	Co-Vice President
Tashia Vagenas	Secretary
Tony Christopoulos	Treasurer

Philip Ted Attalla

Tom Grafos

Christos Ioannou

Anthia Drulias Lucas

James Pappas

Sophia Syrengelas

Mary Udria

Vincent Zarian

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
Jennifer Dobrinen	Gena Pegadiotes
Maria Ganis	Katerina Petrossian
Georgia Loutsos Grajeda	Nicole Schulman
Aliki Haralambos	+Litsa Stavropoulos
Maria Hronas	Pres. Aida Stratos

CHANTERS

Demetrios Baliotis
Mike Abi-Farah

READERS

Dr Nicholas Kokoris
Constantine Trigonis



YOUTH CHOIR

OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator

Athena Serban – Events Coordinator (Trinity Ballroom)



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



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

Rebecca Russo/Stephanie Scolinos - Middle School/6th—8th

Pres. Aida Stratos - High School/9th—12th

Fotene Trigonis - Director



MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Panagia Chapter Board 2020

President

Maria Kypreos

1st Vice President

Maria Hronas, Elizabeth Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

2nd Vice President

Judith Din & Konstantina Paziouros

Corresponding Secretary

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Recording Secretary

Fontaine Achilles Malisos & Mary Dewar

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Assistant Treasurer

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Presbytera Aida Stratos & Esther Vavoulis

Community Outreach

Mary Dewar, Stephanie Soewers & Presbytera Aida Stratos

Fellowship

Athena Dallas

Publicity / Webmaster

+Terese Caire

Scholarship

Irene Albeck & Judith Din

Sunshine and Visitation

Jeanne Karaianoglou

Union Station

Irene Albeck

Welfare

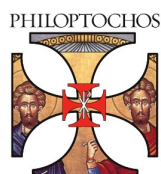
Presbytera Maria Mylonas

Advisor

Connie Becker

Spiritual Advisor

Father Peter Stratos



ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes

Fr. Christopher Retelas

Bible Study

Fr. Peter Stratos

Bookstore

Noah Johnson

GOYA

Fr. Christopher Retelas

GOYA Basketball

Anthia Lucas

Pana Gelt

Greek Dance Groups

Phophi Magaziotis

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

Aliki Haralambos

Vacation Bible School

Sophia Syrengelas

Mary Udria

VIPs

Helen Treantafelles

Young Adults

Mike Abi Farah



COMMUNITY NEWS



Bowling League

St. Anthony Bowling League will be back as soon as we are allowed to gather together! Stay tuned! If you are not part of the league, consider joining. It is going to be the perfect way to see each other and catch up after all this time!



ST. PAUL'S
Grab 'n' Go Greek Fest
SEPTEMBER WEEKENDS
 11, 12, & 13 | 18, 19, & 20 | 25, 26, & 27

Missing St. Paul's **A Taste of Greece Festival**? Yearning for some really delicious, homemade Greek Food? Here's your chance to enjoy some of St. Paul's most favorite Greek dishes! Leave the cooking to us and enjoy **A Taste of Greece** at home!

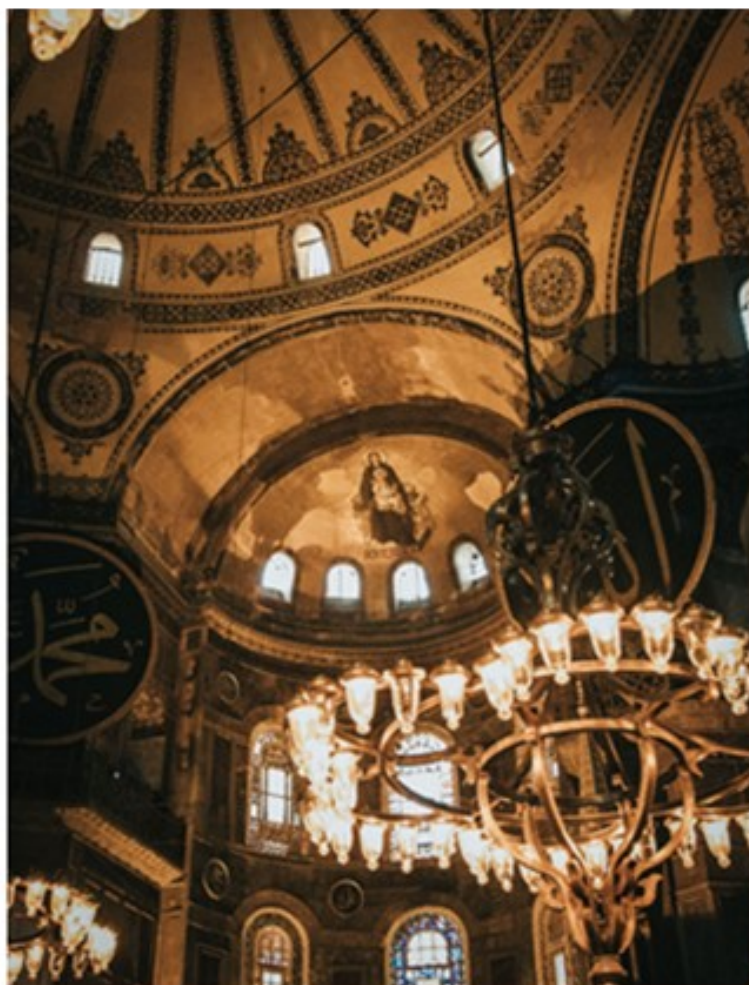
Order Online | Pick Up | Enjoy At Home!

Half Roasted Greek Chicken with Roasted Potatoes and Greek-Style Green Beans
 Pastichio (Greek-Style Lasagna) by the piece and by 6-pack
 Roasted Lamb Rack with Roasted Potatoes and Greek-Style Green Beans
 Meze Platter (4 spanakopita, Kopaisti (spicy Feta spread), Tzatziki with Pita bread, and Kalamata Olives)
 Greek Salad | Dolmathes
 DESSERTS: Baklava | Koulourakia | Kourabiethes | Melomakarona | Dessert Combo Pack

online ordering at www.stpaulsirvine.org /Grab-n-Go
 all orders **must** be received and paid in full no later than 5:00 pm Thursdays.
No purchases at time of pick up!

pick up orders at:
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church - Event Center
 4949 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92604

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)



**Studies in the Faith
w/ Fr. Peter**

offered via ZOOM
Wednesday nights
starting 4/29 at 7pm

Email
frpeter@saint-anthonys.org
for information on how
to join.

**Weekly Bible Study
w/ Fr. Chris**

offered via ZOOM
Tuesday mornings
starting 4/28 at 11am

Email
frchris@saint-anthonys.org
for information on how
to join.



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Share your Recipes to be included in the Saint Anthony 2020 Cookbook !!

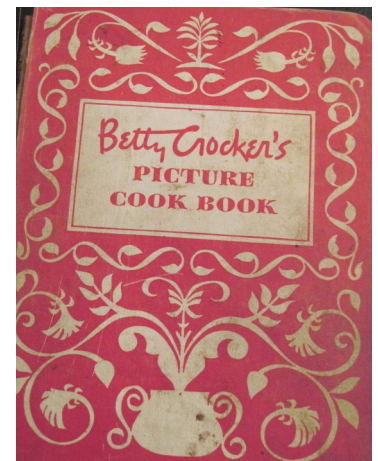
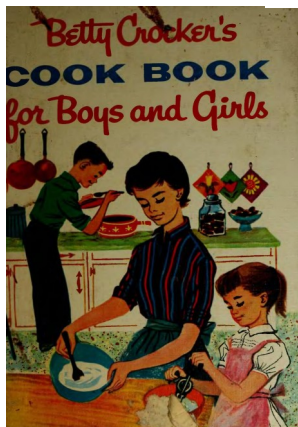
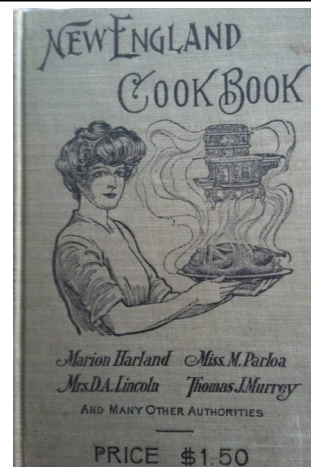
As so many of us have had to stay at home these past several months, it would be fun to share our favorite recipes (Greek or non-Greek) with our church community.

Please email your recipes to: Newsletter_church@aol.com

We will include one in each monthly newsletter, and when we have enough for a cookbook, we will publish them all together.

The cookbook will be available for purchase at a later date.

Please join in the fun to share recipes.



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

How to Worship at Home

a guide for live-streaming services



CREATE A HOLY SPACE AT HOME

plan ahead to live-stream worship in or near your prayer corner, or create a space with icons, a Bible, candles, and incense



FOLLOW ALONG

service books and bulletins can be downloaded from our website or call the church office to have one sent to you



CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST

share the kiss of peace with your family or reach out via text message, Facebook post or call someone in our St. Paul's parish family

PREPARE TO ATTEND

be on time to worship
light a candle (or two)
light your home censer and offer incense
and pray before the service begins



PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

be attentive
read along and listen to the Scripture readings
fervently pray the petitions
sing along with the clergy and chanters
pray for the sick, the suffering,
the lonely and afflicted
pray for everyone in need of God's help



WITH THE FEAR OF GOD, FAITH, AND LOVE, DRAW NEAR

take time to thank God for His abundant mercy and love and pray that the time we can all be together again to receive His Body and Blood at Church comes soon



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

WORSHIP GUIDELINES

During Outdoor Liturgy

What you are asked to do as you attend worship services

ON-TIME ARRIVAL



You will need to check in upon arrival at church and you'll need to be guided to a seating area, it is most helpful and appreciated for you to arrive at least 15 minutes **before** the Liturgy begins

FACE MASKS REQUIRED

For the health and safety of our community, all attendees will be **required** to wear protective face masks. Only children under the age of 2 should not wear masks. If you do not have a face mask, one will be provided.



FOLLOW THE SIGNS



Please follow posted signs at entry points, on campus, and designated seating areas. These have been prepared in advance to provide safe social distancing and need to be respected for everyone's well-being. Additional signage will indicate other safety guidelines and expectations.

SOCIAL DISTANCING IN SEATING AREAS

Designated seating areas will allow for spacing between individuals and families. Members of the same household may be seated in the same area without social distance between them. Everyone is required to remain in their seating area throughout the service except for receiving Holy Communion.



COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

CORONAVIRUS SAFETY



Follow these easy steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



Disinfect surfaces around your home and work.



Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.



Sneeze or cough? Cover your mouth with your elbow.

... maintain a 6-foot distance and wear a mask !!

Until there is a vaccine, this is not over.... Be cautious.. Use common sense!

6 ways you CAN'T catch Coronavirus!



PRAYING

Intercessory Prayer is the greatest thing you can do for others



CALLING SOMEONE

Speaking with someone will help brighten their day as well as yours



WAVING AT A NEIGHBOR

Friendliness eases peoples anxieties



DOING SOMETHING KIND

Grocery shopping, dropping off food, picking up medicine for a friend... all show you care



WRITING A NOTE

Your greeting card will let someone know you care and might bring some joy to their life



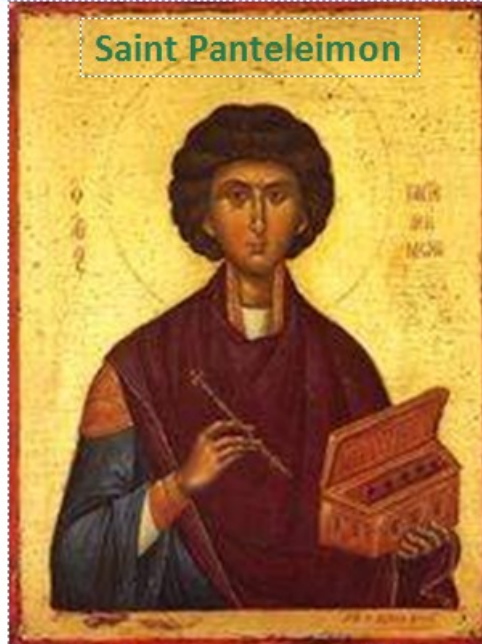
SMILING

It shows there is much to be thankful for and might make you feel better too

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)**The Voice of Saint Anthony****JULY 2020****INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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Deadline for
August Newsletter is
Saturday, 25 July
Please send to:
frchris@saint-anthonys.org OR
newsletter_church@aol.com



Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Pastor
Reverend Father Christopher Retelas, Associate Pastor
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www.saint-anthonys.org

If you would like the monthly newsletter mailed to your home each month, please contact the Church office.

626.449.6943

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

Reading the Bible is a Sacramental Act!

Writing more than 1600 years ago, a great saint like John Chrysostom (354-407AD) could say: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is a great cliff and a deep abyss. Not knowing the Scriptures is the cause of all evils. Reading the Scriptures is like possessing a great treasure. A Christian cannot



help but read the Scriptures. To be a Christian is to rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit and the Spirit speaks to us through the Scriptures." Or, as St. Jerome (347-420AD) said even more bluntly: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ."

Someone once said: "Most books inform, a few reform, but only the Bible transforms." In fact, the Bible does all three! The Bible informs us about the history of God's dealings with the human race and most specifically about His love for us as expressed in the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible provides the basis for reforming us, for in its pages we find the ideals and standards by which we are to live. And the Bible transforms us because in it we come face to face with the grace and power of Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. In this sense, the Bible is sacramental because it conveys the presence of Christ in the Holy Spirit. "Whenever you read the Gospel," writes St. Tikhon of Zadonsk (1724-1783), "Christ Himself is speaking to you. And while you read, you are praying and talking with Him."

For us, therefore, it is not Word and Sacrament, as some Protestant folks might say; rather, the Word itself is a Sacrament! St. Augustine (354-430AD), the bishop of Hippo Regius in North Africa, writing in Latin in the late 4th century, speaks of the sacramentum Scripturae, the "sacrament of the Scriptures." To pick up the Bible and read it can never be a neutral act: we must say either Yes or No to the God whose message is contained within its pages by the content of our lives.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

September 01

Saint Constantine the Great introduced the Indiction decrees in 312A.D. after he beheld the sign of the Cross in heaven 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.

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
- 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.

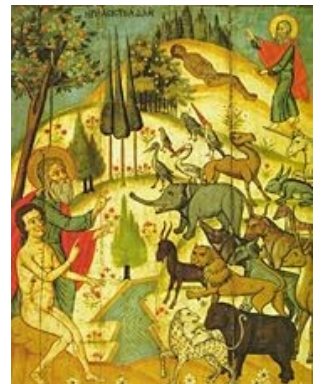
This Indiction begins on the **1st of September** and is observed with special ceremony in the Church. Since the completion of each year takes place, as it were, with the harvest and gathering of the crops into storehouses, and we begin anew from henceforth the sowing of seed in the earth for the production 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 Savior'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.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)

The Nativity of 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.



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, 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 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

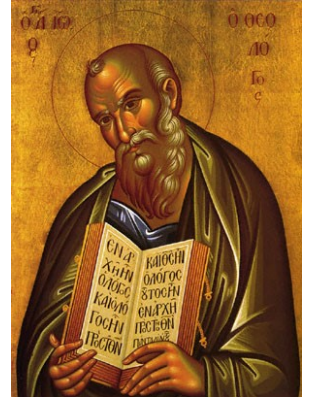
September 17

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.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)**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).



Orthodox Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year	2  7pm Union Station Philoptochos Outreach	3	4 	5
6 13th Sunday Matthew 8:45am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio 10am Divine Liturgy Live-stream only	7 Church Office closed for Labor Day	8 Nativity of the Holy Theotokos 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only 2pm VIP Zoom mtg 7pm Parish Council Zoom mtg	9  Joachim and Anna 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom 7:15pm Philoptochos Board Mtg via Zoom	10	11 	12
13 Sunday Before the Holy Cross 8:45am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio 10am Divine Liturgy Live-stream only	14  Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. Live-stream only	15 11am Bible Study via Zoom	16  7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom	17 Sophia and her daughters: Faith, Hope and Love	18 	19
20 Sunday After the Holy Cross 8:45am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio 10am Divine Liturgy Live-stream only	21	22 11am Bible Study via Zoom	23  7pm Philoptochos General Mtg via Zoom 7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom	24	25 	26 Falling Asleep of Saint John the Theologian 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Live-stream only
27 1st Sunday Luke 8:45am Divine Liturgy Outdoor Patio 10am Divine Liturgy Live-stream only	28	29 11am Bible Study via Zoom	30  7pm Studies in the Faith via Zoom			
		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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September 2020

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