

The Voice of Saint Anthony

August 2021

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Deadline for
September Newsletter is
Monday, 25 August

Please send to:
newsletter_church@aol.com



Transfiguration of our Lord



Reverend Father Peter Stratos, Pastor

778 S. Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107

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

www.saint-anthonys.org

PRIEST'S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have reached that beautiful time of year, **August 1st - August 15th**, when we offer devotions in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Our Holy Orthodox Church has set four major Feast Days for the Mother of God. On August 15th we commemorate one of these holy days, The Dormition (falling asleep) of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This great Feast Day of the Dormition is preceded by 15 days of devotions and prayers to the Blessed Mother of God. During this period we observe a strict period of fasting. We pray and attend Paraklesis (Supplication) Services to the Theotokos and we attend the Divine Liturgy on Sunday August 15th. By following these disciplines of the Church, we will properly prepare ourselves for the sacrament of Holy Communion on that blessed day.

When visiting the Old City of Jerusalem, one can see the tomb of the Theotokos, just below the beautiful gardens of Gethsemane. This is the holy site of her Dormition. Descending the stairs to the tomb, one can observe on the left side (at the 50 foot level) the tomb of the parents of the Theotokos, Joachim and Anna. At the immediate right, one will find the tomb of the protector of the Theotokos, St. Joseph. Continuing down to the 100 foot level, at the base of the marble staircase, is the empty tomb of the Mother of God. According to Holy Tradition, when the time came for the Mother of God to depart from this earth, to join her Son in Heaven, she sent for all of the Apostles of Christ to be at her bedside. All the Apostles were present at the time of her burial, except for St. Thomas who returned too late for the funeral. He asked to visit her body, which had been buried for three days. When the tomb was opened, they were amazed to find that the body of Mary was gone. An Angel of the Lord appeared to the Apostles and announced that she had been taken to Heaven. This is the belief of all Orthodox Christians in accordance with Holy Tradition.

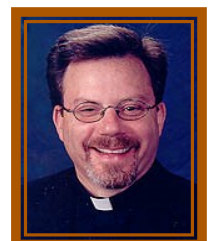
The first 15 days of August are sacred for Orthodox Christians around the world. It is a special time that brings feelings of intensified reverence. Special prayers and services are held regularly during these 15 days. Please consult our calendar for dates and times to attend services or watch them via live stream. This is a special time half way between Pascha and Advent (Christmas), when we can all refocus our minds and souls on our faith. This is a golden opportunity for us to be in church to pray, fast, and participate in our blessed services.

Join us in proclaiming together:

Most Holy Theotokos Save Us!

In Christ,

Fr. Peter



CHURCH HISTORY

Early Greek Community of Pasadena & the San Gabriel Valley

Taken from the 50th Anniversary of St. Anthony, 2003.

Written by +Dr. Nikitas J. Tripodes and submitted to newsletter by Anthia Lucas

Early Greek School Programs

By the 1920s, the families of Pasadena's Greek immigrant parents wanted to instill an understanding of Greek language and culture in their children and sought the services of private tutors. John K. Heliotes, early Pasadena confectioner, paid for a private Greek tutor for his niece and nephew. Despinis (Miss) Fourfouki, as she was known to her pupils, was one of the area's first Greek language teachers. By 1928, the Los Angeles Greek Community was running satellite Greek schools in various communities. In the 1930's there was a Greek school program at Hamilton Elementary in Pasadena, on Del Mar Avenue, taught by Mrs. Artemis Vasiliou the daughter of Father Germanos of the Los Angeles church. Local students of Kyria Vasiliou were Jack Becronis, Achilles A. Achilles, Peter Pappas, Catherine (Pappas) Trigonis and John Poulos. Despina Fourfouki taught at Hamilton Elementary in the early 1940s to a number of Pasadena Greek Americans such as George Bicos, George Poulos, Rose (Zavoures) Linardos, Mary (Zavoures) Phillips, Edison Soulakis and Louis Soulakis. Despina Fourfouki also taught small groups of students at the Pasadena home of Alex and Maria Pappas on Parkwood Avenue. In the late 1940s, a number of Greek American children from the Pasadena area attended a Greek school taught by Stamata Buzas in the city of Huntington Park.

In 1952, Father Anthony Kosturos, one of the two priests at St. Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles, was the principal of the Greek school program with its satellite schools. In the November 1952 edition of the Los Angeles Hellenic, Father Kosturos reported that enrollment in the Pasadena Greek School program was higher than in any other community. Classes were taught by Stamata Buzas at the First Congregational Church in South Pasadena, now Oneonta Congregational Church. Other locations of Greek schools in the area were the meeting hall of the East Pasadena American Legion Post on Vinedo Avenue and the home of the Stefanos family in San Marino.

The need to establish Greek language programs would ultimately give the final impetus to start a Greek Orthodox Church to serve Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley.

1952 - First Church Services

With an eye towards future business relationships, funeral homes were keen to offer their chapels for use by fledgling parishes. The chapel of the Reynolds and Eberle Mortuary at 825 E. Orange Grove had the distinction of being the site of Pasadena's first Greek Orthodox Church services on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, April 12, 1952. On that day Father Leonidas C. Condos, the Proestameno (head priest) of the Los Angeles Greek Orthodox community, came to Pasadena to administer Holy Communion for the convenience of the elderly.

CHURCH HISTORY (continued)

Because of their Sunday duties at St. Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles, Father Condos and Father Anthony Kosturos offered Sunday School lessons on Saturdays at the East Pasadena Women's Club. Funeral homes were available on Sundays but the priests from St. Sophia were not. Services were often held at homes in the Pasadena area on Saturdays. One of the first families to open their home for services was Dimitri and Stavroula Zavoures on Virginia Avenue in Pasadena. Stavroula recruited many of the local Greeks for a service in their backyard patio. Jack and Mary Tripodes hosted several Saturday services in their South Pasadena home. A fireplace with an elevated hearth was used as a makeshift altar. Paul and Frances Casacky's San Marino home also functioned as an impromptu church, with their son Tom performing the duties of altar boy.

Next month:

*Formation of the Panagia chapter of
Philothonos*

First Sunday Service

A New Church



Stamata Buzas taught the Greek language to several generations of Los Angeles area Greek-American children. In the late 1940s and 1950s she served the Greek community of the Pasadena area at various locations, including Congregational Church in South Pasadena. Photo taken in 1945.

CHURCH HISTORY (continued)***c. 1957 Greek School***

Early church functions such as this Greek School play were held at the American Legion Hall at 179 N. Vinedo Avenue. *First row, left to right:* George Pandis, Mike Georgeson, Jim Cocores, Mike Cocores. *Second row:* George Glaros, Tom Casacky, Steve Horaite, John Pandis, George Horaite, Evelyn Mikirelos, unknown. *Back row:* Nick Papaioanou, Father Dan Zeatas, Viki Labrinos, Niki Pandis.

CHURCH HISTORY (continued)*c. 1955 Altar Boys*

Church services throughout much of the 1950s were held at the Ives and Warren Mortuary, 100 N. Hill Ave. in Pasadena. This early group of altar boys includes, *front row, left to right*: Michael Lafkas, Tom Casacky, George Glaros. *Second row*: unknown, Pete Stefanos, John Lafkas, Nick Papaioanou, Peter L. Tripodes.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Next Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 10th

We pray you are staying healthy by wearing your mask, social distancing, washing your hands often, and praying.

Let us take a moment to say thank you to all essential workers: first responders, doctors, nurses, health care workers, and researchers who despite facing direct exposure to COVID 19, continue to do their job of helping others. Let's also thank those who are volunteering to help get the vaccine to as many people as possible. Please continue to pray for them.

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

Drink some Holy Water
when the priest approaches with the Chalice...
If you don't have any on hand, call the church office..

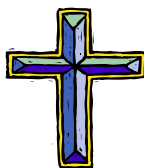


NEWS FROM THE LOFT



GONE FISHIN'

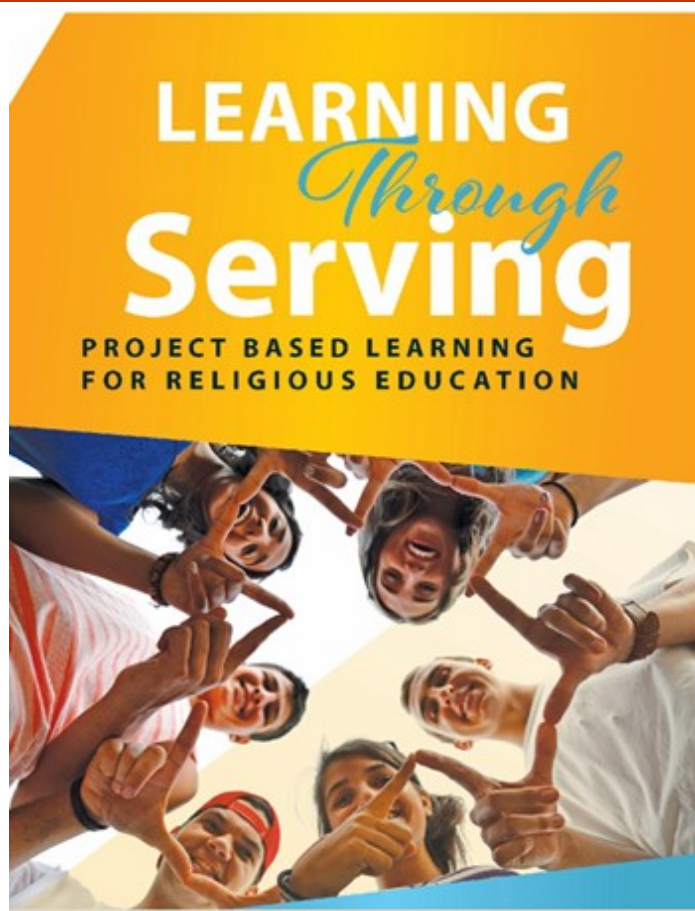
(Except on Sundays when in church with masks on)



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS



Thursday, August 19, 2021

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. PDT

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco is pleased to announce a Zoom workshop for clergy, religious educators, Sunday School directors and teachers, parents, and anyone interested in the implementation of **Project Based Learning for Religious Education**. The program is offered in cooperation with the Metropolis Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries and the Christian Education Ministry.

The guest presenter for this program is **Dr. Drew Baker**, a K-12 educator with a love for the Orthodox Faith and passing it on to younger generations. He serves as the Educational Specialist from Professional Development in Henrico County Schools and teaches graduate education courses in curriculum design, educational technology, and educational psychology at the University of Richmond. At the University level he researches student engagement strategies, project based learning, and instructional design. Drew is a lifelong member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Richmond, VA, where he has taught high school religious education for thirteen years and now serves as one of the religious education directors there. He also has spent time in youth ministry working at many Orthodox summer camps and retreats including the Ionian Village in Greece, Saint Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center in California, and Camp Saint Paul in New York.



Guest Presenter:
Dr. Drew Baker

Advance registration is required for this free Zoom workshop. Deadline: August 13, 2021.

SIGN UP TODAY - DON'T MISS OUT!

OBJECTIVES

- Participants will learn the essential elements of Project Based Learning and apply it to their work with Orthodox youth
- Participants will learn how to use Project Based Learning strategies and activities to increase engagement and ownership in Orthodox middle and high school religious education and Youth Ministry programs.
- Participants will discuss specific Project Based Learning lesson ideas that can be used in their classrooms and youth programs.
- Participants will create their own lesson ideas for 2021-2022 Religious Education/Youth Ministry grounded in Project Based Learning and receive coaching and feedback on the lessons they create

GOALS

- Facilitate learning that makes Orthodoxy relevant.
- Build real-world skills needed for active participants in the Orthodox Faith in America.
- Help students guide their own learning and connect with Christ more deeply in Religious Education.
- Provide experiences that benefit student growth and development outside of the classroom as future stewards of our Church.

Special thanks to Rev. Father Christopher Retelas, Proistamenos from Saint John the Baptist Church in Anaheim, CA for his leadership in organizing this event.

For more information, email **Father Christopher Retelas**,
frchris@stjohnanaheim.org.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS *(continued)***We're Gonna Bring St. Nick's To Your Home**

Our Metropolis Summer Camp is back, and even though it is virtual, it promises to be another exciting, engaging and fun experience. All youth ages 8 – 18 (including recent high school graduates) can register now for this two week program which will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from July 19 – 30, 2021. Activities will include daily cabin talks, prayer services, arts and crafts, cooking classes, evening activities and more! Participants will receive a camper box in the mail with supplies, camp gear and a few surprises. There are also still a few opportunities to be part of the Summer Camp Staff team for 2021. Be sure to check out our new Online Shop for all your favorite camp attire. Visit www.gosfyouth.org for registration information, staff applications, and online camp shop.

Ready. Set. EXCLAIM! (See flyer page 14)

Are you ready to Exclaim your faith? Then the Young Adult League (YAL) Conference over Labor Day Weekend 2021 in Phoenix, AZ is where you need to be! Conference attendees will enjoy a weekend of events, workshops, worship and relaxation from September 2 – 6, 2021 at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa in Phoenix, AZ. Highlights of the weekend include engaging workshops, daily worship, dances, a Grand Banquet, and a special western-themed event "YeeHaw YAL". Online registration for the conference is now open! Registration has already exceeded 400 young adults from across the Archdiocese. We expect this event to be a sell-out! This is your chance to unite with young adults from across the country. Visit www.sanfran.goarch.org/YAL for more registration/hotel details.

Help Our Graduates Stay Connected to the Church (See flyer page 15)

Thousands of our Orthodox youth graduate from High School and go away to schools across our country. While blessed with unprecedented educational opportunities, at the same time, many face difficult challenges in the environment of the college campus. The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco wants to help maintain their connection to the Church! Complete the Online Form or visit www.gosfyouth.org. The Metropolis will make sure that an Orthodox Priest in a community near your student's college connects with your loved one.

Music Scholarships Available

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Church Music Federation Ministry is pleased to once again offer eight (8) Frank Desby and Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Music Scholarships of up to \$500 each for Metropolis church musicians in 2021. Funds can be used to obtain education and training in singing, chanting, and conducting. Applications and information can be found online at www.sfchurchmusic.org. Deadline: August 15, 2021. For more information, please contact: sfchurchmusic@sanfran.goarch.org.

FDF Is Coming Back!

Save the date for the Folk Dance and Choral Festival to be held in-person February 17 – 21, 2022 (Presidents' Day Weekend). The FDF team intends to run the weekend event in its traditional format, while acknowledging that flexibility and on-site arrangements may need to adjusted based on any CDC or state guideline updates. Stay tuned for more news about FDF 2022 in the coming weeks!



Ready. Set. **EXCLAIM!**

**Labor Day Weekend YAL Conference 2021
in Phoenix, AZ**

www.sanfran.goarch.org/YAL

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT NEWS *(continued)*

CONNECTING COLLEGE STUDENTS TO THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

Do you have a son, daughter, or grandchild graduating from High School who will be leaving home for the first time to attend college, or are they already in college living away from home?

Thousands of our Orthodox youth graduate from High School every year and go away to schools across our country. Our college students are blessed with unprecedented educational opportunities, but, at the same time, they face many difficult challenges in the environment of the college campus. Would you like to keep your loved ones connected to the Church while they study?

If so, please complete the form below and mail it to the Metropolis Office in San Francisco. The Metropolis of San Francisco Youth Director, Johanna Duterte, will make sure that an Orthodox Priest and community near your student's college connects with your loved one.

Student's Name _____ Student's Date of Birth _____
 Student's Home Parish, City, State _____
 Student's Email Address _____ Student's Cell _____
 Name of College _____ City, State _____
 Expected Graduation Date _____ Major _____
 Student's Address while at school _____
 Will your student have a car while at school? _____ Student's Patron Saint _____
 Do you know which parish your student will attend while at school? If so, which one? _____
 Your Name _____ Your relationship to Student _____
 Your Home Parish, City, State _____
 Your Email Address _____ Your Phone Number _____
 Your Mailing Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Questions? Contact Johanna Duterte, our Metropolis Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries.
 Email: JDuterte@sanfran.goarch.org Phone: (415) 753-3075 Fax: (415) 753-1165 Website: www.gosfyouth.org



YOUTH &
YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM BACK TO:
 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco
 Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
 245 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**Meetings:**

There will be no Philoptochos meetings in August. We look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Back to School Drive:

From July to August 1, Philoptochos has been collecting school supplies to help Foothill Unity Center reach its goal of providing 2,000 students of low income families with backpacks and supplies for the upcoming school year. We appreciate all the backpacks, supplies and especially monies donated to this drive.

Philoptochos will continue to accept CASH DONATIONS throughout August. Please consider a donation to Philoptochos to help supply backpacks and school supplies to these students.

Any questions, please contact:

Jennifer
818.515.1867
jenniferwebster@me.com

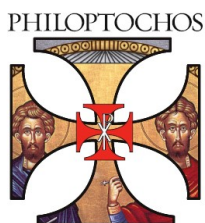
Nicolette
626.808.8902
nfuerst2018@gmail.com

Save the Date:

Sunday, September 26, 2021

We will be hosting a luncheon in honor of Presbyteria Maria Mylonas.

Details to follow...



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS *(continued)*

The San Francisco Philoptochos Fall Spiritual Conference will be held virtually this year on **Saturday, September 18th** from 9 a.m. until noon.

Information on registration, agenda, Metropolis Board elections and more will be forthcoming soon.

A virtual conference provides a wonderful opportunity for all our Philoptochos sisters to hear about our Metropolis ministries and activities.

Please try to join us.



PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (continued)

Welcome 2021 Philoptochos Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT - Judith Din

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - Jeanne Karaionnoglou

Executes meetings in absence of the President. Responsible for our general meeting programs and locations.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - Helen Skandale and Lisa Xanthos

Membership chairperson; manages Program and Membership Directory.

RECORDING SECRETARY - Mary Dewar

Records minutes of board and general meetings.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Mary Udria and Irene Albeck

Notifies members of all meetings and forwards information to membership for all Metropolis and National events.

TREASURER - Connie Becker

Reports financial status of our chapter, including, account balances, obligations for Metropolis and National, and income or expenses.

ASSISTANT TREASURER - Maria Grover

Helps the Treasurer with money collection, for example, coffee hour. Assists with letters of receipts. Report when the Treasurer is not present.

ADVISOR - Maria Kypreos

Immediate past president.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR - Father Peter Stratos

Parish Priest

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BEAUTIFICATION — Maria Kokoris and Maria Hronas

Manages any need that may occur requiring our assistance for our St. Anthony Church community

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Fontaine Malisos, Liz Skandale, Stephanie Soewers

Purchases and delivers food for Friends In Deed . Assists any member of our community in need.

FELLOWSHIP - Tanya Christodoulelis and Maria Kypreos

Manages coffee hour.

PUBLICITY - Christine Pappas

Disseminates information about our Philoptochos to the church Monthly Newsletter and Sunday bulletin.

SCHOLARSHIP - Presybtera Aida and Irene Albeck

Reviews and awards high school seniors with our scholarships.

SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBMASTER - Sophia Syrengelas

Manages Instagram, Facebook and web pages.

SUNSHINE AND VISITATION - Fontaine Malisos, Liz Skandale, Stephanie Soewers

Coordinates with Community Outreach, including sending cards, flowers or making phone calls when needed.

UNION STATION - Irene Albeck and Stephanie Soewers

Manages the program of feeding the homeless on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

OPERATION CLASSROOM - Nicolette Fuerst and Jennifer Webster

Offers support to teachers and students in underserved or underfunded schools and provides otherwise unavailable resources.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS (continued)

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



VIP NEWS

As the summer months of July and August see many of us traveling and spending more time away from home, you are encouraged to pay close attention to the fluid situation in Los Angeles County (and Pasadena in particular) that has resulted from the spread of the more transmissible DELTA VARIANT of the Coronavirus.

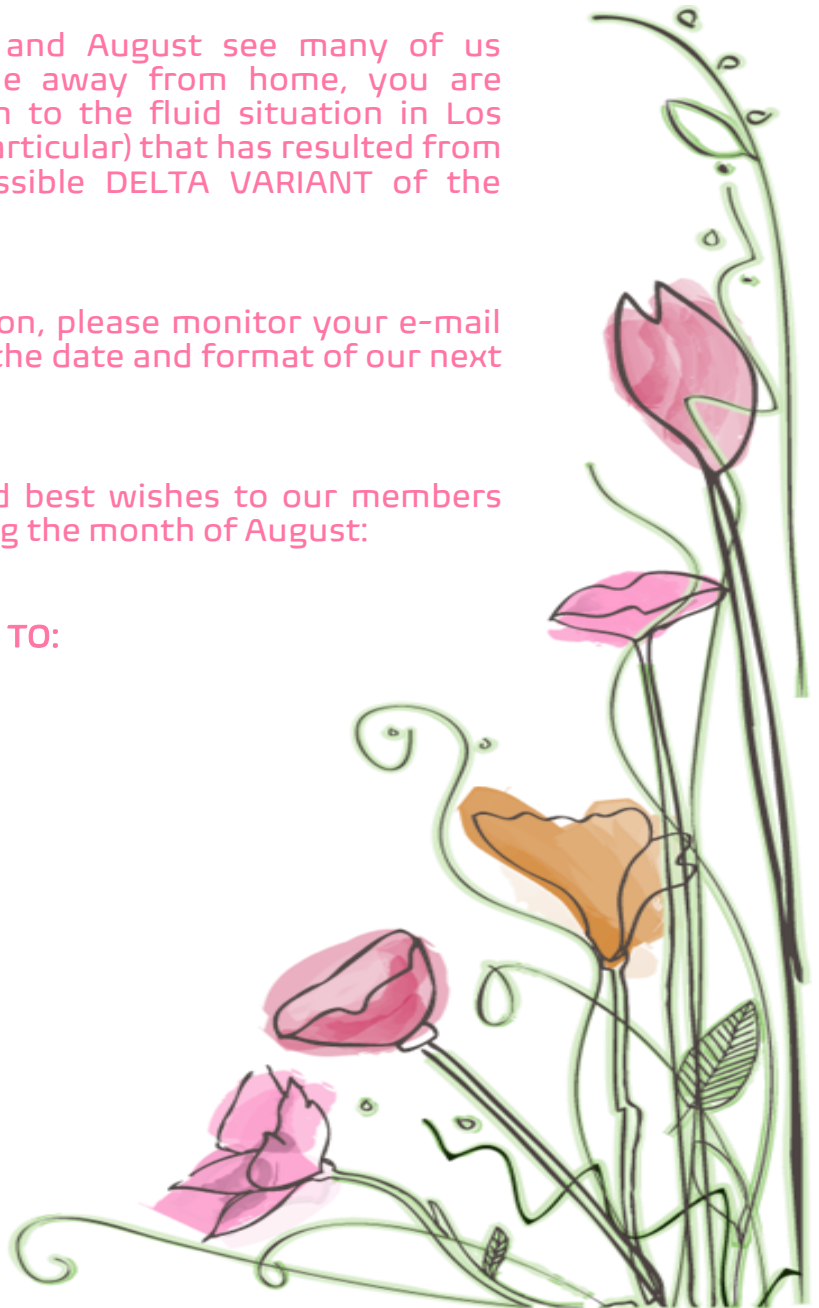
In order to err on the side of caution, please monitor your e-mail for any announcements regarding the date and format of our next meeting.

We wish to acknowledge and send best wishes to our members who celebrate their birthdays during the month of August:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MANY MORE TO:

Irene Albeck August 10

Mary Tassop August 14



Helen Treantafelles

VIP President

htreantafelles@yahoo.com

MINISTRIES

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church Reverend Father Peter Stratos

2021 PARISH COUNCIL

Joseph Akrotirianakis	President
Pete Gallanis	Vice President
Tashia Vagenas	Secretary
Tony Christopoulos	Treasurer

Tom Grafos
Christos Ioannou
Liam McCann
James Pappas
Patricia Paziouros
Vincent Zarian



OFFICE STAFF

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



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHOIR

Jim Hronas, Choir Director

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

CHANTERS

Jim Hronas
Liam McCann
Pres Aida Stratos

READERS

TBD



CHURCH SCHOOL STAFF

Irene Albeck – Preschool, Kindergarten & 1st
Stephanie Scolinos – 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th
Rebecca Russo – 6th, 7th & 8th
Pres. Aida Stratos – 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th



MINISTRIES (continued)

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Panagia Chapter Board 2021

Executive Board

President

Judith Din

1st Vice President

Jeanne Karaionnoglou

2nd Vice President

Helen Skandale and Lisa Xanthos

Corresponding Secretary

Mary Udria and Irene Albeck

Recording Secretary

Mary Dewar

Treasurer

Connie Becker

Assistant Treasurer

Maria Grover

Advisor

Maria Kypreos

Spiritual Advisor

Father Peter Stratos

Board of Directors

Beautification

Maria Kokoris

Community Outreach

Fontaine Malisos, Liz Skandale, Stephanie Soewers

Fellowship

Tanya Christodoulelis and Maria Kypreos

Publicity

Christine Pappas

Scholarship

Presbytera Aida Statros and Irene Albeck

Social Media/Webmaster

Sophia Syrengelas

Sunshine and Visitation

Fontaine Malisos, Liz Skandale, Stephanie Soewers

Union Station

Irene Albeck and Stephanie Soewers

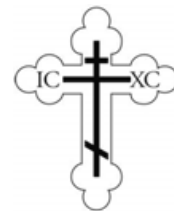
Operation Classroom

Nicolette Fuerst and Jennifer Webster



ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES

Acolytes	Fr. Peter Stratos
Bible Study	Fr. Peter Stratos
Bookstore	Noah Johnson
GOYA	Fr. Peter Stratos
GOYA Basketball	Anthia Lucas Pana Gelt
Greek Dance Groups	Phophi Magaziotis
Greek Festival	Nick Demopulos Julie Balas
Greek Language	Anastasia McClain
JOY/HOPE	Irene Albeck
Moms & Tots	TBD
Myrrh Bearers	Irene Albeck
Oratorical Festival	Nicole Schulman
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



St. Anthony Bowling League Resumes

We are hoping to begin a new season of the Saint Anthony Bowling League very soon!

Qualifications:

- 18 years of age and older
- Beginners to advanced bowlers welcome

Location:

Bowlero Lanes
Hastings Ranch Center
Foothill Blvd.
Pasadena

If you have any questions, please contact:

Pana Gelt	626.278.2808	Pgelt3@gmail.com
Anthia Lucas	626.274.6133	ADLJSL02@yahoo.com



COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)**Monthly Lesson from Father Stavros Akrotirianakis...**

Jesus said to His Disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven"

Matthew 5: 14-19

When someone asks you about your religious affiliation, you most likely will tell them that you are an Orthodox Christian. Perhaps you might even give them the name of the church to which you are a member. In the Gospel of Matthew 5:14-19, Jesus challenges His followers to adopt an even more specific identity. He tells us, that we *"are the light of the world."*

Being a Christian is a lot more than attending church on Sunday mornings. Certainly this is part of what it means to be a Christian. But during the rest of the week, we have another role that is even more important - to be a light to the world, to share the light of Christ with the world.

Jesus gives us two examples of what it means to be a light in the world. He tells us that *"a city on a hill cannot be hidden."* In other words, the true Christian is like a city on a hill - our Christianity is visible for all to see. Secondly, Jesus tells us that we do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel, but we put it on a stand so that our house can be lit. We are not supposed to keep our Christianity, our Light of Christ, hidden. We are supposed to show it for all to see. We are supposed to demonstrate it through works and we are supposed to TALK about it with other people.

Jesus encourages us to let our light *"so shine before men that they may see (our) good works and give glory to (our) Father who is in heaven."* (5:16) The Christian life is not just about being good and doing good works. It's about being the light of Christ in the world. The good works we do should not be ends to themselves or a means to bring credit to ourselves. The good works should give glory to God and serve as a witness to Him. This is the ideal.

If we really are the city on the hill and lights of Christ in the world, more of the world will come to Christ. It is the "stupid controversies" that hold us back. It is probably also a fundamental misunderstanding that Christians are not just consumers of the Good News but that we are supposed to be bringing others to Christ.



COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)

There is most definitely a teaching and evangelism element to Christianity and it belongs not only to the clergy but to every member of the Body of Christ. The first thing God created was Light. Christ is revealed as the Light *"that shines in the darkness," and that darkness cannot overcome the Light. (John 1:5).* We are called upon to be "Lights" to the world, to let His light shine through us so that others may come to know Christ through us.

Each year on Pascha, we celebrate the Resurrection by lighting candles. This act reminds us not only that the Light of Christ cannot be overcome by darkness, but that we carry this Light within us everywhere we go. It's not the physical candle that makes us alight with Christ, but the fire which burns in our hearts and souls. The Gospel of Matthew is a reminder to keep that Light strong and to share it. If your Light is flickering, you can strengthen it at any time through prayer, worship, confession, and encouragement from other Christians. So let us use what is available to us to keep our Lights burning strongly and let us share the Light with others, not only by what we say but especially by what we do.

Be a Light in the world today!



COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)

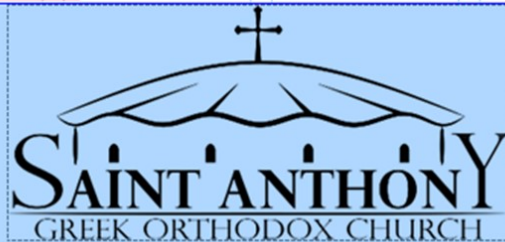
The Voice of Saint Anthony

JANUARY 2021

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Deadline for
February Newsletter is
Monday, 25 January
Please send to:
newsletter_church@aol.com



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FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH

Dormition Fast

1 August—14 August

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

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

Transfiguration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

6 August

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



Such are the marvels, truly worthy of God, celebrated in this present feast, which is an image and prefiguring of the future state of the righteous, whose splendor the Lord spoke of, saying: *"Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun"* (Matt. 13:43). According to tradition, the Lord's Transfiguration came to pass forty days before His Crucifixion; this is why the Transfiguration is celebrated forty days before the Exaltation of the Cross.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (continued)***The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary******15 August***

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

With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulcher, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens.



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (continued)

Saint Phanourios

27 August

Little is known of the holy Martyr Phanourios, except that which is depicted concerning his martyrdom on his holy icon, which was discovered in the year 1500 among the ruins of an ancient church on Rhodes, when the Moslems ruled there. Thus he is called "the Newly Revealed." The faithful pray to Saint Phanourios especially to help them recover things that have been lost, and because he has answered their prayers so often, the custom has arisen of baking a Phaneropita ("Phanourios-Cake") as a thank you-offering.



Beheading of John the Baptist

29 August

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

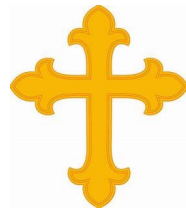
This was Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch of Galilee, the son of Herod the Great. This man had a lawful wife, the daughter of Arethas (or Aretas), the King of Arabia (that is, Arabia Petraea, which had the famous Nabatean stone city of Petra as its capital. This is the Aretas mentioned by Saint Paul in II Cor. 11:32).



FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE MONTH (continued)***Beheading of John the Baptist******Continued...***

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

(Mark 6: 21 - 29).



Orthodox Calendar

August 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 1 6th Sunday Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Indoor & Live-stream	 2 6pm Small Paraklesis	 3	 4 6pm Small Paraklesis 7pm Union Station Philoptochos Outreach	 5	 6 Transfiguration of our Lord 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	 7
 8 7th Sunday Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Indoor & Live-stream	 9 6pm Small Paraklesis	 10 7pm Parish Council Meeting	 11 6pm Small Paraklesis	 12	 13 6pm Small Paraklesis	 14 7pm Great Vespers Assumption Church Long Beach
15 Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Indoor & Live-stream	16	17	 18	19	 20	21
22 9th Sunday of Matthew 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Indoor & Live-stream	23	24	 25	26	 27 Phanourios the Great 9am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	28
29 Beheading of the Holy and Glorious Prophet John the Baptist 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Indoor & Live-stream	30	31				
		Strict Fast Refrain from meat, fish, wine, oil, dairy & eggs 	Fish, Oil & Wine Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 	Dairy, Eggs, & Fish Allowed; Refrain from Meat 	Fast Free

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St Paisios



"If you want to help the Church, it is better to try to correct yourself, rather than be looking to correct others. If you manage to correct yourself, one small part of the Church is immediately corrected. Naturally, if everyone did the same, the body of the Church would be in good health. But, today, people concern themselves with anything but themselves. You see, judging others is easy, whereas working on yourself takes effort."