

The Voice of Saint Anthony

October 2023

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos

778 S. Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107

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

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Saint Romanos | 1 October |
| Saint Thomas | 6 October |
| Saint Phillip | 11 October |
| Saint Luke | 18 October |
| Saint James | 23 October |
| Saint Demetrios | 26 October |
| Holy Protection of Theotokos | 28 October |



Saint Demetrios
26 October

| | |
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Deadline for November Newsletter is Wednesday, 25 October
Please send to: newsletter_church@aol.com

Message from Father Peter

STUDIES IN THE FAITH

Gospel of St. Luke

2023 Fall Session: October 2—December 18

Monday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

Our Studies in the Faith/Bible Study Classes will be organized into 12 evening sessions.

These informative zoom classes will serve as an excellent introduction into the Gospel of Luke from an Orthodox perspective.

For those interested in the class please email Fr. Peter frpeter@saint-anthonys.org

Session 1 – Monday October 02
Chapters 1 & 2

Session 7 – Monday November 13
Chapters 13 & 14

Session 2 – Monday October 09
Chapters 3 & 4

Session 8 – Monday November 20
Chapters 15 & 16

Session 3 – Monday October 16
Chapters 5 & 6

Session 9 – Monday November 27
Chapters 17 & 18

Session 4 – Monday October 23
Chapters 7 & 8

Session 10 – Monday December 04
Chapter 19 & 20

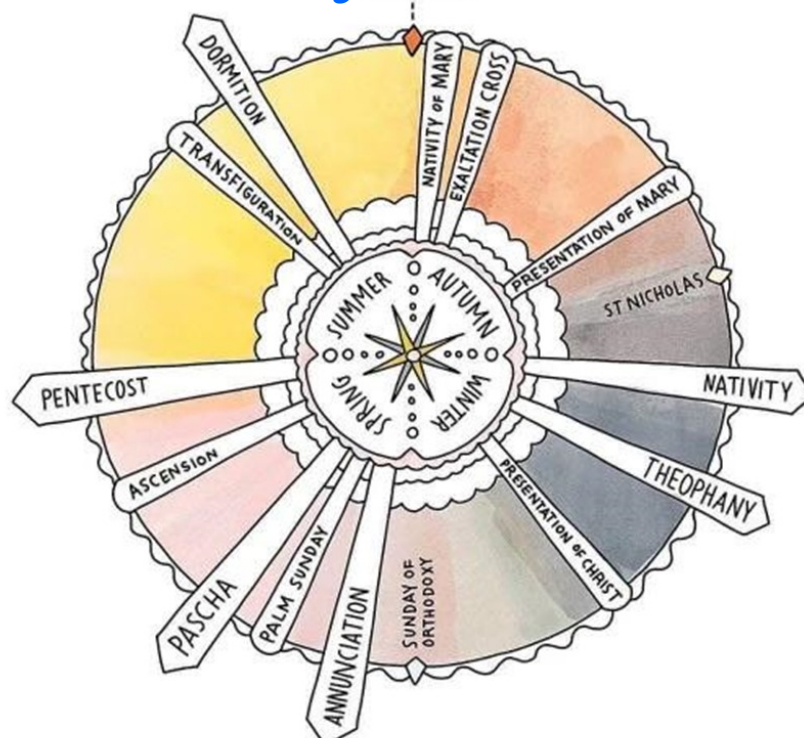
Session 5 – Monday October 30
Chapters 9 & 10

Session 11 – Monday December 11
Chapter 21 & 22

Session 6 – Monday November 06
Chapters 11 & 12

Final Session – Monday December 18
Chapter 23 & 24

Liturgical New Year



Stewardship



2023 Stewardship Financial Commitment

*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10)*

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME(S), PLEASE INCLUDE CHILDREN UNDER 18.

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PREFERRED PHONE

OTHER/SECOND PHONE

E-MAIL

[For office use only]

SIGNATURE

DATE

ANNUAL GIVING LEVELS:

***ARCHANGEL: \$15,000 and up**

\$288/week OR \$1,250/month & up

***ANGEL: \$10,000 - \$14,999**

\$192-\$288/week OR \$833-\$1,249/month

***GUARDIAN: \$7,000 - \$9,999**

\$135-\$192/week OR \$583-\$833/month

***DISCIPLE: \$4,000 - \$6,999**

\$77-\$135/week OR \$333-\$583/month

***FAITHFUL: \$2,000 - \$3,999**

\$38-\$77/week OR \$167-\$333/month

SUPPORTER: \$1,000 - \$1,999

\$19-\$38/week OR \$83-\$167/month

FRIEND: \$500 - \$999

\$9.60-\$19/week OR \$42-\$83/month

CONTRIBUTOR: \$499 & below

\$9.60/week OR \$42/month & below

Review your stewardship commitment prayerfully, consider what you offer to the Church in comparison to monthly utility/service payments.

Please return your completed commitment card to church by Jan. 31, 2023

Your card must be on file for you to be considered in 'Good Standing'

In response to God's blessings, I/we pledge a 2023 offering of:

My Stewardship Commitment for 2023: \$ _____

I will fulfill and pay my pledge: (CHECK ONE)

☐ Weekly at \$ _____/week

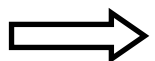
☐ Monthly at \$ _____/month

☐ Annually

Contact the Church office to set up easy recurring electronic payments

-OR- set up your own recurring giving at saint-anthonys.churchgiving.com

***To fully cover our operating expenses, our goal is to
have our average stewardship be \$2,000 or above per family**





"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions about Stewardship:

Q: IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "DUES" & "STEWARDSHIP"?

A: Yes! Three or four generations ago, it was commonplace for families throughout our Archdiocese to pay their annual "dues" or required membership fee to be a member of their local parish. Over time it was clear that this was not the healthiest way of committing to a local church as giving remained stagnant and the authentic Christian commitment of sacrificial giving became an afterthought. (note: the annual "dues" of \$300-350 *back then* would equate to roughly \$2,500-\$3,000 *today*) Stewardship, however, offers us the chance to recognize our unique blessings from God, and to give back based on what we have received. Stewardship is management of another's property, and all our blessings and gifts we have been given ultimately belong to God. We are but his caretakers, his priests, his *stewards* on this earth.

Q: HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

A: The foundations of Christian stewardship is both from Scripture and the teachings of our Lord. You may have heard the term *titling* (the word *tithe* literally means *tenth* in Hebrew), and this refers to the biblical giving goal of 10% of your household income to your local church (*Lev. 27:30; Num. 18:25-28; Deut. 14:22-24; 2 Chron. 31:5-6*). Yet, we also hear from our Lord Jesus Christ that true giving is when we offer sacrificially "all that we have" (*Luke 21:4*), "store up your treasures in heaven" (*Matt. 6:20*), "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (*Acts 20:35*), "for God loves a cheerful giver" (*2 Cor. 9:7*). With this in mind, you are invited to prayerfully reflect on your own household income, and make your sacrificial offering based on what you receive. Consider also what you offer to Christ's Church in comparison to your monthly utility/service payments. (*"Am I giving my phone more than my Church?"*) Use the chart to the right as a guide.

| Annual Income | 2.5% | 5% | 10% | 15% |
|---------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| \$20,000 | \$500 | \$1,000 | \$2,000 | \$3,000 |
| \$50,000 | \$1,250 | \$2,500 | \$5,000 | \$7,500 |
| \$75,000 | \$1,875 | \$3,750 | \$7,500 | \$11,250 |
| \$100,000 | \$2,500 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 | \$15,000 |
| \$250,000 | \$6,250 | \$12,500 | \$25,000 | \$37,500 |

Q: WHAT DOES MY STEWARDSHIP PAY FOR?

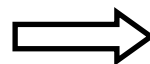
A: It costs approximately \$2,000/day to keep the church open. Most operating expenses are paid from stewardship. Some examples are mortgage, utilities, office staff and pastoral salaries, candles, permits, and facilities maintenance. Additional costs are directly related to church programs.

Q: WHAT IS THE EASIEST WAY TO FULFILL MY PLEDGE?

A: The easiest way is online! Pledging and paying online is fast and EASY and is the preferred method for many of our families. Simply go to our website saint-anthonys.org and click the DONATE button and this will take you to our online giving platform. Under "Regular" click the Make a Donation button, then click Create a Recurring Donation, enter your weekly/monthly/semi-annually amount and fill in the necessary information. You can always call the church office for assistance in setting up easy recurring giving payments. Paying your pledge can also be done by check, envelopes, or credit card payments, though these are not as convenient for you.

Q: WHEN SHOULD I MAKE MY ANNUAL PLEDGE?

A: We would ask you to turn in your pledge card by January 31st. Our church budget is based on our expected annual income and expenses. Forecasting stewardship in January helps meet our parish goals.



Q: I DON'T LIKE TO PAY MY PLEDGE UNTIL DECEMBER. SHOULD I STILL PLEDGE IN JANUARY?

A: Yes. January pledging allows for effective fiscal budgeting. Pledge your annual amount, then pay weekly, monthly, semi-annually or annually.

Q: WHY DO I HAVE TO UPDATE MY INFORMATION EVERY YEAR?

A: We ask for updated information to provide you the opportunity to review your pledge for the upcoming year. As cost of living increases every year, so do our own parish expenses, and our giving to the church needs to adjust accordingly. We anticipate automatic online giving to become the standard in order to simplify the process.

Q: DOESN'T THE GREEK FESTIVAL BRING IN MOST OF THE FUNDING FOR THE CHURCH?

A: No. While the annual Pasadena Greek Fest is an important source of funding and support, it actually accounts for less than 15% of the total revenue brought in each year. Stewardship raises four times as much and is our primary source of funding for operating expenses. Ultimately, the goal is to have zero reliance on outside sources of funding, which would then make the Festival an outreach and community building opportunity, thus greatly alleviating the stress and dependency of this event.

Q: I ALREADY PAY FOR GREEK DANCE, GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL, BASKETBALL, ETC. WHY DO I HAVE TO PAY STEWARDSHIP TOO?

A: These programs operate independently from the church operating budget. The church provides the facility in addition to expenses enabling their operation and receives no money from these organizations. *It is also important to know that families participating in our children's ministries must be currently pledged stewards.*

Q: IF I DONATE TO A MEMORIAL FUND, BUILDING FUND, FESTIVAL, OR EVENT, DOES THAT COUNT AS PART OF MY STEWARDSHIP?

A: No. Your stewardship is represented entirely by your stated pledge.

Q: IF I MAKE A NON-MONETARY DONATION TO THE CHURCH, CAN THIS REPRESENT MY STEWARDSHIP?

A: No. Your stewardship pledge cannot be substituted for non-monetary donations. However, your various donations to the festival and the church are always greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible.

Q: WHEN SHOULD MY CHILDREN BECOME STEWARDS?

A: As the principles of stewardship is that of sacrificial giving from what we have received, everyone is encouraged to become a "cheerful giver" as soon as one begins to generate his/her own income.

Q: WHAT IF I OR MY FAMILY EXPERIENCE A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SEVERE CHANGE IN INCOME?

A: Parishioners who are experiencing financial hardships and are unable to fulfill their stewardship obligation, but still want to be considered in "good standing", can always contact the church office, and you may always speak with one of our priests.

Fact: With our congregation at roughly 300 families, to fully cover our operating expenses our goal is to have average stewardship be \$2,000 per family or above. Right now, 83% of our stewards are under that goal.



Commitment of Time and Talents



Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife, "C" for Children.

Council of Ministries

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ Acolytes | _____ Kouvouklion | _____ Stewardship Committee |
| _____ Bible Studies | _____ Little Lambs | _____ Studies in the Faith |
| _____ Bookstore | _____ Myrrh Bearers | _____ Sunday School |
| _____ GOYA Basketball | _____ OCF (Orthodox Christian | _____ Vacation Bible School |
| _____ GOYA/Jr. GOYA | _____ Fellowship) | _____ VIPs |
| _____ Greek Dance | _____ Office Volunteers | _____ Volleyball Tournament |
| _____ Greek Language School | _____ St. John Chrysostom | _____ Welcoming Committee |
| _____ JOY/HOPE | _____ Oratorical Festival | _____ Other |

Parish Events

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ Palm Sunday Luncheon | _____ Resurrection Magiritsa | _____ Summer Family Picnic |
| _____ Pasadena Golf Classic | _____ Dinner | _____ Other |
| _____ Pasadena Greek Fest | _____ Saint Anthony Feast Day | |

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Ministries



2023 PARISH COUNCIL

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Joseph Akrotirianakis | President |
| Pete Gallanis | Co-Vice President |
| Perry Vidalakis | Co-Vice President |
| Tashia Vagenas | Secretary |
| Christian Balas | Treasurer |

Tony Christopoulos
Tom Grafos
Louie Kades
Pete Katsafados
Liam McCann
Eleni Mitropoulos
Jim Pappas
Dino Vagenas
Vincent Zarian
Nikole Zoumberakis

OFFICE STAFF

Alma Vorgias – Office Administrator



CUSTODIAL STAFF

Carlos Sosa



CHANTERS

Michael Kontaxis
Liam McCann

READERS

Nicholas Kokoris
Rebecca Russo



SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

Sophia Syrengelas – Director

Teresa Argueta – Little Lambs, Pre-PreK

Irene Albeck, Larissa Maslen – Pre K/TK

Sophia Syrengelas – Kindergarten, 1st
Adrianna Lareau – Kindergarten, 1st

Theoni Katsafados – 2nd, 3rd
Vicki Kades, Jenni Nassos – 2nd, 3rd

Mary Udria, Athena Serban – 4th, 5th
Kyriaki Tsigounis, Maria Kypreos – 4th, 5th

Polly Vagenas, Chris Syrengelas – 6th, 7th, 8th

Presuytera Aida Stratos – High School

Vicki Kades – Photographer

PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**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

Maria Hronas

Community Outreach

Fontaine Malisos, Liz Skandale

Stephanie Soewers

Fellowship

Tanya Christodoulelis

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**

Pres Aida Stratos

Bible Study

Fr. Peter Stratos

Bookstore

Noah Johnson

Golf Tournament

Jimmy Christos

GOYAAnthia Drulias Lucas
Maria Katsas Gittings
Polly Vagenas**GOYA Basketball**

Pana Gelt

GOYA VolleyballAnthia Lucas
Pana Gelt**Greek Dance Groups**

Nikole Zoumberakis

Greek Festival

Christian Balas

Greek Language

Anastasia McClain

JOY/HOPE

Irene Albeck

Myrrh Bearers

Irene Albeck

Oratorical Festival

Pres Aida Stratos

Prayer Shawls

Maria Kypreos

Psalter Group

Fr. Peter Stratos

Vacation Bible SchoolSophia Syrengelas
Mary Udria**VIPs**

Irene Albeck



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you, to Jim Xanthos, for designing and building a special table for our classroom altar.

Our altar is no longer hidden in a corner but visible for all to see. As students enter the classroom they are greeted by the icon of Jesus. This reminds us that Sunday is the seventh day – a day to worship God and enjoy family.



Youth & Young Adults



GOYA NEWS

Congratulations to our new 23-24 GOYA Board!

President Katerina Gittings

Vice President Yianni Kades

Corresponding Secretary Niko Lareau

Recording Secretary Maria Syrengelas

Treasurers Dimitra Gittings and John Ioannou

Junior Treasurer Dean Pouloupoulos



We've already had two meetings this year and are busy planning the Fun Zone for the Festival!

Games, Treats, Jumpers, Prizes, Cotton Candy, Ouzo Snow Ice, Periptero and Probata! You'll have to come by our booth to check it out!

We picked a theme for the year and it is MAZI (μαζί)!

We'll be making t-shirts very soon.

Dues will be \$25 for the year for GOYA membership.

Check out our new Instagram account at: @stanthonysgoya

We are planning a family day trip to Oak Glen for apple and pumpkin picking on October 14th. Look for more information soon.

GOYA meetings are every 2nd Sunday of the month from 12:15pm-1:15pm in the high school classroom.

Next meeting, October 8th! Bring your dues!

To sign up your child for GOYA, please hit this QR code to do so:



GOYA Sign up

Any questions, please email us at: goya@saint-anthonys.org



LET'S
GET



SPOOKY

Saturday

OCT 28TH

6:30 pm

SOCAL GOYA
HALLOWEEN PARTY

Hosted by Assumption LB

5761 E Colorado ST
Long Beach, CA

RSVP to
Penelope Kyriazi
562-252-6779

DINNER PROVIDED



Philoptochos

Good Works

Operation Classroom

It is estimated that 9,000 students attending Pasadena City College are facing food insecurity. To help fill this need Philoptochos will be collecting canned food and personal hygiene donations for the Pasadena City College Lancer Pantry. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Union Station Homeless Service (USHS)

Philoptochos is continuing the monthly commitment to USHS by preparing a hardy, nutritious dinner made possible through the generosity of our donors. USHS has requested packaged dessert (cookies), single serve beverages (10 oz.), and single serve bottles of milk. You may continue to volunteer by donating towards the purchase of individual packaged items.

The estimated costs are: Chicken - \$75, Rolls - \$15, Dessert - \$17, and Beverages - \$40.

We are also in need of donations to help offset our costs of large aluminum pans with lids.

We invite you to consider helping us feed the needy by making a contribution.

Thank you to all our donors for their support.

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

Please write USHS on the memo line.

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

For further information, please 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 |

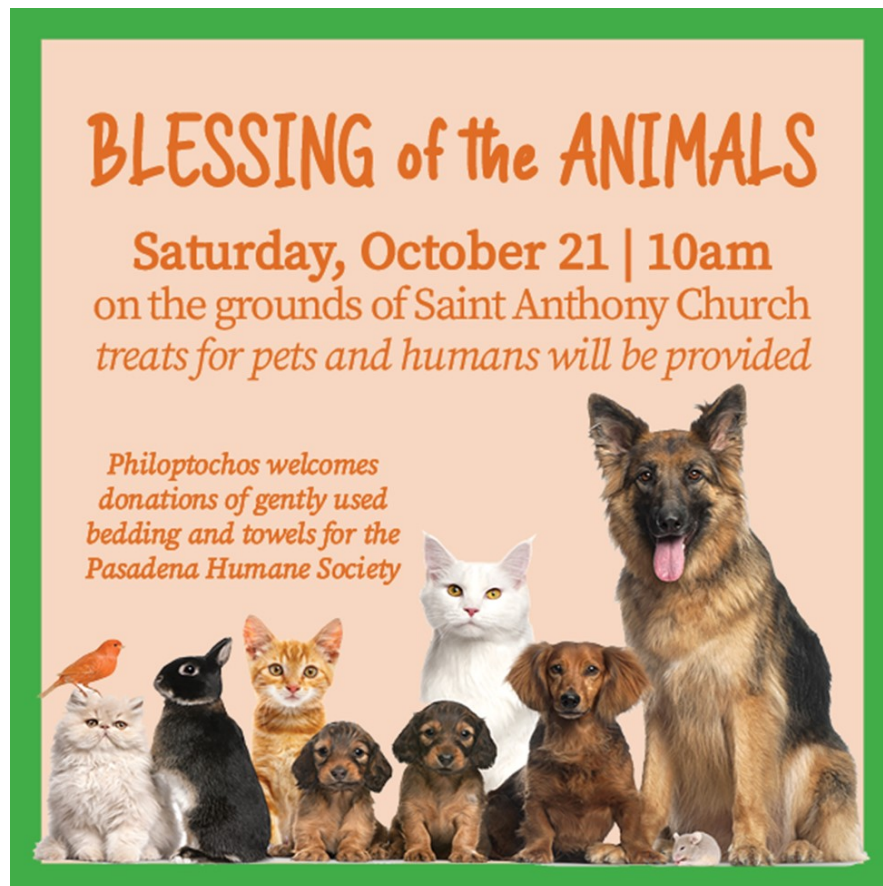
**“You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.”
Deuteronomy 15:11**



Community Happenings

September General Meeting - Welcome Back Potluck Dinner, Hawaiian Luau

On Wednesday, September 20, Philoptochos members and guests gathered at a luau to kick off the new Ecclesiastical Year. Funds were raised to help the fire victims on Maui. Over \$1,300 was donated by members, and Philoptochos supplemented another \$200 to send a total of \$1,500 to the Maui Greek Orthodox Mission for its ongoing fire recovery efforts. Guests shared their favorite dishes at a luau-themed buffet and enjoyed this fellowship meeting. The evening's program included an update on the chapter's happenings and upcoming events.



Philoptochos Christmas Tree Sale to Benefit Friends In Deed

Get your tree and support Friends In Deed at the same time. We will be participating in the annual Christmas Tree Sale benefitting Friends In Deed, a non-profit organization committed to meeting the needs of Pasadena's most vulnerable residents. Orders need to be placed by mid-November. Pickup or delivery, at an additional charge to Pasadena, Altadena or Sierra Madre, is on **December 2**. More details to come!

St. Anthony's Coffee Hour is coordinated by St. Anthony Philoptochos

Host a Coffee Hour to Celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, Nameday, Graduation, Loved One, or for any reason. A sign-up poster has been placed in the foyer of the Parish Community Center. Please sign up or contact Tanya Christodoulelis at 626-379-2304. Thank you for your support. **Please contact the Church office if you need to schedule a Memorial and if you wish to host the Social Hour on that Sunday.**

*PLEASE NOTE that the money collected from Coffee Hour is used to purchase items for the church, such as the chanter stands and reliquary. Donations to the **Coffee Hour Basket** are greatly appreciated.*

Upcoming Meetings**Christmas Benefit 2023 Planning Committee**

Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 PM. in the Parish Hall.

We invite you to be part of this fun group of talented women who annually plan our largest fundraiser of the year. All are welcome to join the 2023 Benefit planning committee. This year's event will be held at The Langham Huntington Hotel on Saturday, December 2, 2023.

September Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, at 7:00 PM.

General Meeting

Wednesday, October 25, at 6:30 PM. Details forthcoming.

If you have any questions, call Jeanne Karaioannoglou: 626-437-6078 (cell)

National Events***Children's Medical Fund Luncheon***

Saturday, November 11, 2023 at the Hilton Americas in Houston, Texas.

For more information and tickets, go to <https://www.philoptochos.org/cmf-3/>

Thank You for Your Support***Hellenic College/Holy Cross Collection***

Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology Scholarship Fund has been given \$1,000 from the St. Anthony community. Through your generous donations during Holy Cross Sunday we were able to help support and prepare the next generation of Greek Orthodox priests. Thank you!

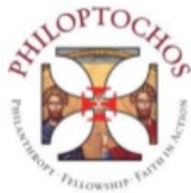
Philoptochos Superheroes

We thank ALL who answered the call to volunteer to cook for the upcoming Greek Festival; and, or provided lunch for the volunteers. So many of you responded to the email that the work schedule for cooking and baking was completed in a fast and efficient manner. Thank you to our Super Heroes for answering the call for help.

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS and BECOME A SUPERHERO

Our 2023 Membership Drive has begun and we invite you to join us in our important work. We encourage all women, 18 years and older to join Philoptochos. Men and non-Orthodox women may also join as associate members. Your participation in this ministry can make a difference to so many lives. Please see letter next page:

- Membership Letter
- Charities
- Membership Form



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: St. Anthony Philoptochos
Instagram: stanthonypiloptochos



**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF
SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

778 South Rosemead Boulevard • Pasadena, California 91107

April 22, 2023

"Lord, When Did We See You Hungry and Feed You, Or Thirsty and Give You Drink? When Did We See You a Stranger and Take You In, Or Naked and Clothe You? When Did We See You Sick or In Prison and Come to You?... Inasmuch As You Did It to One of The Least Of These My Brethren, You Did It to Me." Matthew 25 37:40

Dear St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Ladies,

Did you know that Philoptochos was established **90 years** ago by Archbishop Athenagoras as the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church of America? In those 90 years, our mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers have been instrumental in making the Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society one of the largest women's philanthropic religious organizations in the United States.

Our Chapter is currently holding a membership drive. We invite you to renew and encourage every woman in our parish, 18 years of age or older, to become a member of Philoptochos and fulfill our philanthropic mission to help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, those with disabilities and victims of disasters. Men are also welcome to join as an Associate member. When we combine our strengths and skills, great things can happen!

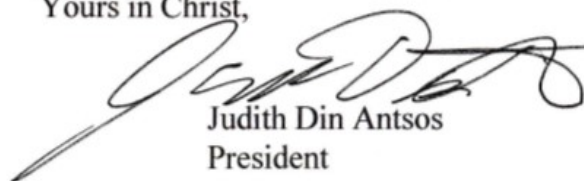
As we embark on a new year, we want to share with you our charitable efforts. Please see the reverse side to see the many charities we support locally, Nationally and through our San Francisco Metropolis. Our 2022 Christmas Benefit Luncheon chose IOCC as our featured charity with funds specifically earmarked for the Ukraine Relief Fund.

In 2021, National Philoptochos disbursed close to \$1,800,000 to those in need. Last year, our Panagia Chapter donated more than \$28,000 to our local charities.

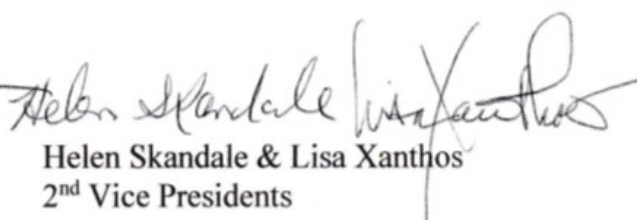
Please, renew or join by mail: enclose your registration form and check payable to St. Anthony Philoptochos, St. Anthony Philoptochos, 778 S. Rosemead Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107. To process online: (go to <https://stanthonyphiloptochos.square.site> and scroll down to Annual Membership Dues).

For those of you who have been members, we thank you for your many years of support and devotion and, to all prospective new members, we hope you will join us in our mission of philanthropic endeavors.

Yours in Christ,



Judith Din Antsos
President



Helen Skandale & Lisa Xanthos
2nd Vice Presidents

The following charities are supported by St. Anthony Philoptochos:

Chapter Charities

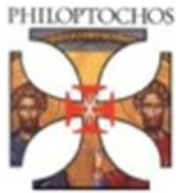
CAST, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
 City of Hope
 Friends in Deed
 Foothill Unity Center
 Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology Seminarians
 Kids 'n' Cancer/Camp Agape
 Operation Classroom
 Pasadena City College Lancer Pantry
 Pasadena Unified School District/Foster Care Children
 Project Mexico Orphanage
 Social Services/Emergency assistance to individuals within our community
 Scholarships for College Bound Students
 Ukraine Relief Fund of the International Orthodox Christian Charities
 Union Station Homeless Services

San Francisco Metropolis Philoptochos Programs & Charities

Bishop Anthony Student Aid Endowment Fund [BAPSAEF]
 Emergency Relief Fund/Social Welfare
 Kids n' Cancer/Camp Agape
 Saint Nicholas Ranch
 Support a Seminarian
 Women's Health & Wellness

National Philoptochos Programs & Charities

Academy of Saint Basil
 Autism Assistance Fund
 Cancer Fund
 Children Medical Fund
 Ecumenical Patriarchate
 Emergency Fund
 General Medical Fund
 Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology
 International Orthodox Christian Charities [IOCC]
 National Sisterhood of Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
 Operation Classroom
 Orthodox Christian Fellowship
 Orthodox Christian Mission Center & Support a Mission Priest
 Retired Clergy & Widowed Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
 Saint Photios Shrine
 Saint Nicholas Shrine
 Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Founders Fund
 Social Services
 United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund [UNICEF]



**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF
SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PANAGIA CHAPTER**

PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ 2023 Philoptochos Membership ☐ 2023 Associate Membership (Men / Non-Voting) Date _____

| | | | |
|--|---|---|------|
| Last Name | First Name | Spouse Name | M.I. |
| Street Address | | | |
| City | State | | Zip |
| Home Phone | | Cell Phone | |
| Email | | | |
| Notices will be sent via email. If you prefer your notices mailed, please, let us know by checking here <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| St. Anthony's Philoptochos Stewardship (membership dues). Select amount below: | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 <input type="checkbox"/> Other | | | |
| Each \$50 stewardship supports National Philoptochos (\$15), San Francisco Metropolis (\$15) and St. Anthony Philoptochos obligations and projects (\$20). <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Cash | | | |
| I am interested in helping with the following: | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding the Hungry | <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delivering Meals to Parishioners | <input type="checkbox"/> Baking & Cooking | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Designer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homebound Visitations | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Talents | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Tree | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Specify _____ | |



2023 PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Your continued generosity allows Philoptochos to provide financial assistance and outreach to those in need. We invite you to renew your membership or become a new member as we endeavor to do our philanthropic work. Join us as we strive to fulfill the word of Christ.

".. whatever you did for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did for me" - Matthew 25:30

PLEASE RENEW OR JOIN BY MAIL (Check payable to: Saint Anthony Philoptochos Society)

Mail your check along with this form to:

**Saint Anthony Philoptochos Society, Attention: Membership
778 South Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107**

or pay online at <https://stanthonyphiloptochos.square.site>
Scroll down to "Annual Membership Dues"

For more information or questions, please contact Lisa Xanthos (626) 222-4374 or Helen Skandale (818) 618-4963



COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP



Host a Coffee Hour and celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, Name Day, Graduation, Loved One, as a Family Activity or for any reason!

Every Sunday following the Divine Liturgy, coffee hour in the Parish Hall provides an opportunity to visit with fellow parishioners and to greet new Parish members. By offering to host a Coffee Hour Fellowship, you are assisting in providing a delicious snack while we spend time with our church family.

Hosting is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. **Sign-up on the poster located in the Parish Hall or Church Office.** To be included in the bulletin, notify the Church Office by the Wednesday prior to the date chosen at 626.449.6943 or by email office@saint-anthonys.org

For Memorials, you must notify the Church Office by the Wednesday prior to the date chosen at 626.449.6943 or by email office@saint-anthonys.org

2. **Bring snacks for 75 adults and kids** – Suggestions include: assorted Bagels, Muffins, Cakes, Cookies, Mini Deli Sandwiches, Cheese & Crackers, Olives, Dolmades, Hummus, Tzatziki, Pita, Raw Vegetables, Fruit, Salads, Oatmeal or anything you prefer
3. **Bring food items plated on serving trays/bowls and ready to serve by 10:30am on your chosen day.** (Serving tables and coffee/water station are set up by 10:00am)

That's it! Your fellow parishioners will be grateful for the snack and fellowship.

Philoptochos provides the coffee, sugar, creamer, paper plates, plastic utensils and napkins or you may choose to donate these items to help offset the cost.

For questions, please call or email Tanya Christodoulelis at 626.379.2304 or tanyachristos@yahoo.com.

All cash donations made during Coffee Hour go toward the Church Altar Fund to provide the items needed throughout the year for the altar.

At the September VIP Meeting, our members committed to collecting funds to offset the \$600.00 cost of baking Galaktoboureko for the GreekFest Pastry booth. We are pleased to report that over \$800.00 was collected!

In preparation for resuming VIP outings to various locations and activities of interest, Vickie Kades presented information on renting different modes of transportation to allow our members to participate in any upcoming trips.

A few of our members were able to attend screenings of "*My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3*" since its introduction in September. Reports indicate that the movie was filled with lots of fun.....as well as emotional moments that we could all relate to.

Upcoming VIP events will include a fundraising drive to benefit "Feed a Family," - a program whereby a \$10.00 donation will purchase a single feather to decorate a Thanksgiving turkey. All funds collected will be given to the Unity Center of San Gabriel Valley to purchase holiday turkeys for those in need.

Our November meeting/get-together will see the VIPs enjoying a holiday luncheon in the Trinity Ballroom. More details on this event will be provided in the near future. And our December breakfast meeting will be held at LeRoy's Restaurant in Monrovia.

The month of September saw eight of our members celebrating birthdays! But our meeting luncheon on Tuesday, September 12th was prepared by Anthia Drulias-Lucas in honor of her mother-in-law Kathy Lucas, who celebrated her 90th birthday on September 15th. The entree for this lunch featured a delicious baked/fried chicken, the recipe for which Anthia has graciously allowed us to share with our Saint Anthony Family. We have named this dish **CHICKEN ALA VIPs**:

Ingredients:

Chicken parts: Legs and thighs are best (but your choice). Remove skin
Seasoned bread crumbs (Italian works)
Parmesan Cheese (grated) 1 container
Other seasonings if you wish (Greek works well)
Milk (your choice) Regular/Low fat/non-dairy/Buttermilk
Olive oil

Procedure

1. Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees
2. Rinse and remove skin from chicken
3. Place in a container to marinate
4. Pour your milk choice over chicken making sure it is all submerged. Cover and refrigerate overnight at the very least.
5. In a bowl, combine bread crumbs, parmesan cheese and any additional seasonings you may enjoy. (Preference: Greek seasoning)
6. Pour olive oil in another shallow bowl.
7. Drain milk from chicken and discard.
8. Dip chicken pieces in oil, then coat with bread crumbs/cheese mixture.
9. Cover a baking pan with foil and spray with cooking spray.
10. Place chicken pieces on pan and place in oven at 350 degrees for approximately 1 hour (if using convection or air fryer - times will vary)
11. Enjoy

We want to acknowledge & wish a happy birthday to our members who have October birthdays:

Elizabeth Demopulos
George Treantafelles
Pat Pastis
+Rodanthi Kitridou (may her memory be eternal)

Jim Hronas, VIP Communications



**Happy Birthday
Katherine
Lucas**



**Katherine and her
grandchildren**

Community News & more...

The Hellenic Library & The Basil P. Caloyeras Center for Modern Greek Studies at LMU
are inviting you to Iakovos Kambanellis' dark comedy "The Eulogy"

Performed by Michael Dukakis
Directed by Tatiana Skanatovits
Lights and sound by Vangelis Sagris



Ο ΕΠΙΚΗΔΕΙΟΣ

Μαύρη κωμωδία του Ιάκωβου Καμπανέλλη
Ερμηνεία: Μιχαήλ Δουκάκης

October 15th at 5 p.m.

Bristol Civic Auditorium
16600 Civic Center Dr, Bellflower, CA 90706

Reception to follow at St. George's Church Hall
10830 Downey Ave, Downey CA 90241
\$25 donation to the Hellenic Library

Ticket Reservations
Tel (562) 305 2356
philipptrevezas@yahoo.com
*performed in Greek with English supertitles

Presented under the auspices of
the Consulate General of Greece in Los Angeles



HELLENIC LIBRARY
OF SO CAL



Loyola Marymount University
Basil P. Caloyeras
Center for Modern
Greek Studies

PASADENA GREEK FEST

THANK YOU

*Sincere thanks to all of our generous sponsors and volunteers
who supported this year's Pasadena Greek Festival*

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Rev. Fr. Peter & Pres. Aida Stratos | Kalivas Family | Stacy Papavasiliou |
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| Joe & Sherese Akrotirianakis | Christina Karatzas | Steve & Christine Pappas |
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| Ted & Vangie Dupas | Anna Loutsos | Bill Vagenas Family |
| Foothill Restaurant | John & Anthia Lucas | Christos Vagenas |
| Fotis & Sons Imports | Katherine Lucas | George & Polly Vagenas |
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| Giannoulis Family | Eleni Mitropoulos | Spiro & Diana Vagenas |
| Thean Grafos | Liam McCann | Fotiny Varvitsiotis Family |
| Tom & Tania Grafos | Syrus & Chrissa Mobayen | Robert & Stephanie Vezzto |
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| Louie & Vicki Kades | Papavasiliou Family | Lisa Xanthos |
| Yianni Kades | | Vincent & Maria Zarian |

and to all those whose contributions were received after the printing deadline.



PASADENA GREEK FEST



PASADENA GREEK FEST





Pasadena Rose Bowl AHEPA #373 2023 Christmas Party

Honoring lifetime AHEPA member **Andrew Demopoulos** on his
exemplary service to the Pasadena Greek community.



Friday, December 15, 2023
North Woods Inn

7247 Rosemead Blvd, San Gabriel, CA 91775 (at Huntington Drive & Rosemead Boulevard)
7:00 p.m. no host cocktails, 7:30 p.m. dinner — free parking

Choice of Filet Mignon Steak, New York Steak, Icelandic Filet of Cod, or Broiled Mahi Mahi
Two Salads, Cheese Bread, and Rice Pilaf
Baked Potato with Butter, Chives and Cheese, plus dessert!

\$60 each, limited to 50 persons, paid reservations required

Virginia Lappas will lead us in an optional \$15—\$20 Gift Exchange after dinner. Neutral gift suitable for either men or women, wrapped, with no names. Anyone who brings a gift will receive a gift. The community is invited.

Please make checks payable to: Pasadena AHEPA
Send to: Dean Tripodes, Post Office Box 486, Sierra Madre, CA 91025-0486
Or pay by Zelle on your bank's app or website, enter ahepa373@gmail.com as the recipient.



Bowling League News

Fall Season 2023



The St. Anthony Bowling League began the
Fall Season in September on a **new night!**

We are now meeting on Thursdays at 7:00 PM
Bowlero Lanes in Pasadena

We will continue for 11 weeks, ending on
Thursday, November 16, 2023.

If you are interested in joining, please contact:
Anthia Drulias-Lucas

ADLJSLO2@YAHOO.COM

626.274.6133 (call or text)



The Voice of Saint Anthony

January 2023

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos
778 S. Rosemead Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 449-6943 Office (626) 449-6974 FAX
www.saint-anthonys.org

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| St. Basil | |
| Circumcision of Christ | Jan 1 |
| Holy Epiphany | Jan 6 |
| Synaxis - John the Baptist | Jan 7 |
| St. Anthony the Great | Jan 17 |
| Athanasios & Cyril | Jan 18 |
| Euthymios the Great | Jan 20 |
| Gregory the Theologian | Jan 25 |
| Synaxis of Three Hierarchs | Jan 30 |

| | |
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| Priest's Message | 2 |
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| Philop tochos | 19 |
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| Community News | 26 |
| Saints of the Month | 37 |
| Orthodox Calendar | 43 |



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

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

626.449.6943

Monthly Lesson from Father Stavros Akrotirianakis

One word that is not used in Orthodox circles very much is the concept of “discipleship.” This is actually a very popular word in other Christian denominations. Whether they are all good or effective at it is another story, but the concept is there, and is spoken of. The word “discipleship” means to bring other “disciples” to Christ, to add them to the body of the Church. The word “disciple” means “student,” so “disciples” are those who are devoted to learning about something, in this case, the Christian faith.

The role of the disciple, however, does not end with just learning. It includes DO-ing the things that have been learned, such as using our talents to help others while giving glory to God. It includes not only knowing but FOLLOWING the commandments of God. It includes not only knowing but PRACTICING the tenets of the faith. It includes not only knowing how to pray and where to find things in Scripture but actually spending time PRAYING and STUDYING the Scriptures.

There is one more role of the disciple, which is often overlooked and understated, and this is recruiting more disciples and bringing them to Christ. It means adding to the body of the church. And this is ultimately what discipleship is about.

Popular Protestant pastor Rick Warren, in his book “The Purpose Driven Church” talks about four levels in the process of discipleship:

1. To know Christ. In this stage, someone is a member of the church.
2. To grow in Christ. This involves spiritual maturation through prayer, study and worship.
3. Serving Christ. This is done through ministry, outreach, service.
4. Sharing Christ. This involves taking Christ to others and bringing others to Him.

There are lots of people who are at stage one—they belong to the church but don’t have a deep relationship with Christ. There are those who are growing in Christ but who don’t participate in any ministry. There are those who participate in ministries but never really talk about Christ with anyone. The ultimate step in being a disciple is to not be afraid to share Christ with others, but to joyfully share Him with others.

The Gospel of Luke 5:1-11 tells us several important things about Christianity and being a disciple. Jesus did not go to the temple or the top rabbinical school to recruit His disciples. He went to the seashore and found fishermen. He didn’t even find accomplished fisherman. By their own admission they had toiled all night and had caught nothing. He knew their hearts though. He knew that every heart has some seed of faith in it, just not all have been cultivated. Simon Peter put the boat out from the shore and let down the nets and they were filled with fish.

Peter's reaction wasn't "wow, this is really cool, how did You do that?" His reaction was one of humility. He asked Jesus to depart from him, saying that he was a sinful man. Jesus' reaction was to ask Peter to follow Him, that Peter was exactly the kind of man Jesus was looking for. And then Peter and his friends, James and John, left everything and followed.

The message for us is that we don't have to have theology degrees or be Sunday school all-stars in order to be disciples. We have to have a desire to know Christ, a humble heart and a sense of trust. For who is going to give the lead to someone they don't trust. Jesus called them to follow and they did. He eventually called them to lead others to Him, and they did as well.

Jesus calls on us to follow. And part of following is also the call to lead others to Him. Like the disciples on the boat, we are called to do both. The challenge is for us to answer the call, the whole thing—to know, to grow, to serve, and to lead others to Him. THIS is what it means to be a disciple. THIS is what discipleship is all about. THIS is what we are all called to do.

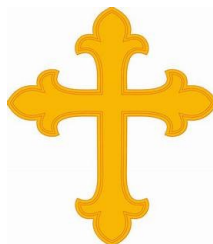
Know so you can grow.

Grow so you can serve.

Serve so you can lead.

Lead so that others will come to know Christ...

The cycle will repeat, the church will grow, lives will be changed and souls will be saved.



Saints & Feasts

Saint Romanos the Melodist

October 01

Romanos was a Syrian Christian who lived in the beginning of the 6th century. A convert to Orthodoxy from Judaism, he was ordained a deacon and served in the Church of Beirut. His talent was great. Unlike others, he wrote his hymns in simple language and produced a pleasant meter in the verse by the way he accented words. The hymns he composed appealed to the hearts of the people and are still sung today.

Romanos has been called "Sweet Singer" (Ghlykophonos), "Melodist" (Melodhos), and "Righteous Chanter" (Psaltis Dhikeosinis). He wrote hundreds of hymns celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and the living of a Christian life. One of the most famous compositions is the hymn celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, *"Today the Virgin gives birth to the One who is above all living things...."* St. Romanos is said to have composed the Akathist Hymn, a kontakion that we still chant during the Friday evening Heretismoi services of Great Lent.



Romanos died on October 1st in 510 AD. He was a productive genius and artist, writing and accenting thousands of kontakia. He has been called the patron saint of all who sing for the Church. Others say he is the leader in the world of religious hymnology. Surely he has made a profound contribution to divine worship and deserves to be recognized by all who sing and by all who listen to the hymnology of our services.

Saint Thomas the Apostle

October 06

The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas was born in the Galilean city of Pansada. He was a fisherman. Hearing the good tidings of Jesus Christ, he left all and followed after Him. The Apostle Thomas is included in the number of the Twelve Apostles of the Savior.

According to Holy Scripture, the holy Apostle Thomas did not believe the reports of the other disciples about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ:

"Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe." John 20:25

On the eighth day after the Resurrection, the Lord appeared to the Apostle Thomas and showed him His wounds. *"My Lord and my God,"* the Apostle cried out (John 20:28). *"Thomas, being once weaker in faith than the other apostles,"* says St John Chrysostom, "toiled through the grace of God more bravely, more zealously and tirelessly than them all, so that he went preaching over nearly all the earth, not fearing to proclaim the Word of God to savage nations."



Saint Thomas the Apostle – continued..

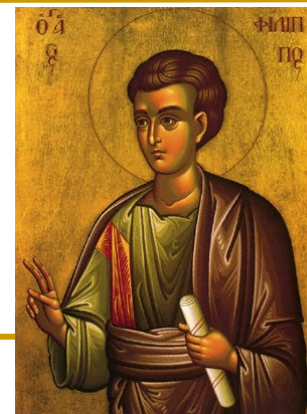
Some icons depicting this event are inscribed "The Doubting Thomas." This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, "The Touching of Thomas." In Slavonic, it says, "The Belief of Thomas." When St Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

According to Church Tradition, the holy Apostle Thomas founded Christian churches in Palestine, Mesopotamia, Parthia, Ethiopia and India. Preaching the Gospel earned him a martyr's death. For having converted the wife and son of the prefect of the Indian city of Meliapur, the holy apostle was locked up in prison, suffered torture, and finally, pierced with five spears, he departed to the Lord. Part of the relics of the holy Apostle Thomas are in India, Hungary and on Mt. Athos.

Saint Philip the Apostle of the 70

October 11

Saint Philip, who had four daughters that prophesied, was from Caesarea of Palestine. He preached throughout Samaria; it was he also who met the eunuch of Candace, the Queen of the Ethiopians, as the eunuch was reading the Prophet Esaias, and he instructed and baptized him (Acts 8:26-39). He reposed in Tralles of Asia Minor while preaching the Gospel.



Saint Luke the Evangelist

October 18

Luke was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul (Phil.1:24, 2 Tim. 4:10-11), and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, St Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Saints Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied St Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's co-workers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, St Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

Tradition credits St Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. "Let the grace of Him Who was born of Me and My mercy be with these Icons," said the All-Pure Virgin after seeing the icons. St Luke also painted icons of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul. St Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (Luke 1:1-3), St Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (Luke 1:4).



Saint Luke the Evangelist – continued

He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him.

In St Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance. St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Holy Apostles in Rome around 62-63 A.D. The Book of Acts, which is a continuation of the four Gospels, speaks about the works and the fruits of the holy Apostles after the Ascension of the Savior. At the center of the narrative is the Council of the Holy Apostles at Jerusalem in year 51, a Church event of great significance, which resulted in the separation of Christianity from Judaism and its independent dissemination into the world (Acts 15:6-29). The theological focus of the Book of Acts is the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide the Church "into all truth" (John 16:13) until the Second Coming of Christ.

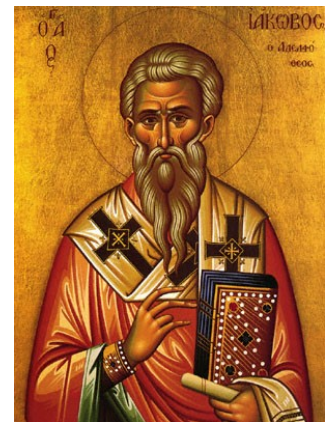
The holy relics of St Luke were taken from Constantinople and brought to Padua, Italy at some point in history. The Roman Catholic bishop of Padua, noting that Orthodox pilgrims came to Padua to venerate the relics, while many Catholics did not even know that the relics were there, appointed a committee to investigate the relics in Padua, and the skull of St Luke in the Catholic Cathedral of Prague. The skeleton was determined to be that of an elderly man of strong build. A rib from the relics of Saint Luke resides in St Luke's original tomb in the Orthodox cathedral at Thebes.

Saint James the Apostle

October 23

According to some, this Saint was a son of Joseph the Betrothed, born of the wife to whom Joseph was married, before he was betrothed to the Ever-Virgin. Hence he was the brother of the Lord, Who was also thought to be the son of Joseph (Matthew 13:55). But some say that he was a nephew of Joseph and the son of his brother Cleopas, who was also called Alphaeus and his wife, Mary, who was the first cousin of the Theotokos. But even according to this genealogy, he was still called, according to the idiom of the Scriptures, the Lord's brother, because of their kinship.

This Iakovos is called the Less (Mark 15:40) by the Evangelists to distinguish him from Iakovos, the son of Zebedee, who was called the Great. He became the first Bishop of Jerusalem, elevated to this Episcopal rank by the Apostles, according to Eusebius, and was called Obliah, that is, the Just, because of his great holiness and righteousness. Having ascended the crest of the Temple on the day of the Passover at the prompting of all, he bore testimony from there concerning his belief in Jesus and he proclaimed with a great voice that Jesus sits at the right hand of the great power of God and shall come again upon the clouds of heaven. On hearing this testimony, many of those present cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." But the Scribes and Pharisees cried, "So, even the just one hath been led astray," and at the command of Ananias the high priest, the Apostle was cast down headlong and stoned. While he prayed for his slayers, his head was crushed by the wooden club by a certain scribe. The first of the Catholic (General) Epistles written to the Jews in the Diaspora who believed in Christ was written by this Iakovos.



Saint Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer

October 26

Saint Demetrius was a Thessalonian, a most pious son of pious and noble parents, and a teacher of the Faith of Christ. When Maximian first came to Thessalonica in 290, he raised the Saint to the rank of Duke of Thessaly. But when it was discovered that the Saint was a Christian, he was arrested and kept bound in a bath-house. While the games were under way in the city, Maximian was a spectator there. A certain friend of his, a barbarian who was a notable wrestler, Lyaeus by name, waxing haughty because of the height and strength of his body, boasted in the stadium and challenged the citizens to a contest with him. All that fought with him were defeated. Seeing this, a certain youth named Nestor, acquaintance of Demetrius, came to the Saint in the bath-house and asked his blessing to fight Lyaeus single-handed. Receiving this blessing and sealing himself with the sign of the precious Cross, he presented himself in the stadium, and said, "O God of Demetrius, help me!" and straightway he engaged Lyaeus in combat and smote him with a mortal blow to the heart, leaving the former boaster lifeless upon the earth. Maximian was sorely grieved over this, and when he learned who was the cause of this defeat, he commanded that Demetrius be pierced with lances while he was yet in the bath-house, As for Nestor, Maximian commanded that he be slain with his own sword.

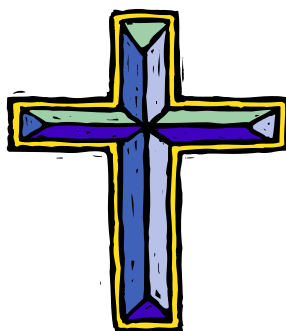
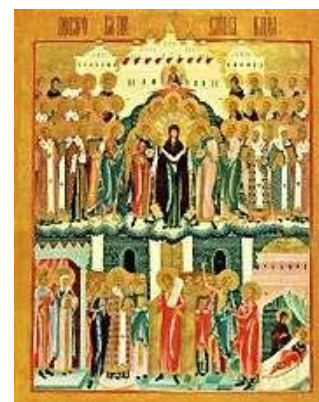


The Holy Protection of the Theotokos

October 28













The Feast of the Protection commemorates the appearance of the most holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae in Constantinople in the tenth century, as recorded in the life of Saint Andrew the Fool for Christ's sake. While the multitudes of the faithful were gathered in church, Epiphanius, the friend of Saint Andrew, through the Saint's prayers, beheld the Virgin Mary above the faithful and spreading out her veil over them, signifying her unceasing protection of all Christians.

Because of this we keep a yearly feast of gratitude, imploring our Lady never to cease sheltering us in her mighty prayers.



Orthodox Calendar

October 2023

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 2nd Sunday of Luke Romanos the Melodist 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Greek Dance Prac Indoor & Live-stream | 2 | 3 | 4  7pm Philoptochos Union Station Outreach | 5 | 6  Thomas the Apostle | 7 |
| 8 3rd Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Greek Dance Prac 12:15 GOYA Meeting Indoor & Live-stream | 9 4:30 Greek School 5:30 Dance Prac. | 10 10:30am VIPs Mtg 7pm Dance Prac. 7pm Parish Council | 11  Philip the Apostle 4:30 Greek Sch. 7pm Philoptochos Board Meeting | 12 4:30 Greek School | 13  | 14 |
| 15 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Greek Dance Prac Indoor & Live-stream | 16 4:30 Greek School 5:30 Dance Prac. | 17 7pm Dance Prac. | 18  Luke the Evangelist 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. 4:30 Greek Sch. | 19 4:30 Greek School | 20  | 21 11am Blessing of the Animals |
| 22 6th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Greek Dance Prac Indoor & Live-stream | 23 James the Apostle 4:30 Greek School 5:30 Dance Prac. | 24 7pm Dance Prac. | 25  4:30 Greek Sch. 7pm Philoptochos General Meeting | 26 Demetrios the Myrrh-Stream 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit. 4:30 Greek Sch. | 27  | 28 Holy Protection of the Theotokos OX Day |
| 29 7th Sunday of Luke 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 11:30 OXI Day Program 12:15 Greek Dance Prac Indoor & Live-stream | 30 4:30 Greek School 5:30 Dance Prac. | 31 7pm Dance Prac. | | | | |
| | | Strict Fast Refrain from Meat, Fish, Wine, Oil, Dairy & Eggs  | Fish, Wine & Oil Allowed  | Wine and Oil Allowed  | Dairy, Eggs, & Fish Allowed; Refrain from Meat  | Fast Free |

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POSTAGE
STAMP

TIME SENSITIVE

To generations of our descendants yet unknown to you, who some day in the dim and distant future will read this account of the dramatic history of the Hellenic community, we who have written this account not only on paper, but in the blood, sweat and tears of our daily lives make this statement:

We have built this community with its hopes and its fears, and its land and its buildings because we believe, as did our forefathers, in the soul's immortality, and its eventual union with God.

We believe that whether or not we have amassed a great deal of personal wealth or fame, it matters little, since we could not take that with us. What does matter is how we have discharged our obligation to pass on to you the faith and ideals that have sustained us through our lives... and we venture the hope that as you read these lines, you may breathe a prayer that what we have done here may have found favor in the eyes of God.

**The church was not
meant to entertain
people.
It exists to train
disciples, to glorify
GOD, and reach the
lost!**