The Voice of Saint Anthony May 2024

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Reverend Father Peter Stratos
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(626) 449-6943 Office (626) 449-6974 FAX

Holy Wednesday	1 May
Holy Thursday	2 May
Holy Friday	3 May
Holy Saturday	4 May
PASCHA	5 May
Bright Week	5-11 May
Sunday of Thomas	12 May
Sunday of Myrrh Bearers	19 May
Sunday of the Paralytic	26 May

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Great & Holy Pascha
5 May

Deadline for June Newsletter is Saturday, 25 May Please send to: newsletter_church@aol.com Page 2 April 2024

Message from Father Peter

Let us pray...

Passing from one divine Feast to another, from palms and branches, let us now make haste O faithful, to the solemn and saving celebration of Christ's Passion. Let us behold Him who would undergo voluntary suffering for our sake and let us sing to Him with thankfulness a fitting hymn:

Fountain of tender mercy and haven of salvation, O Lord, glory to You!

Beloved Parishioners,

"Therefore, we also bearing palms and olive branches cry aloud to You in thanksgiving!"

With these inspiring words, we approach another glorious Holy Week. This is the time of the year that we all need to come together as a Christian Family, to embrace these beautiful services of Holy Week, as they lead us, through participation and worship, to His Glorious Resurrection.

In an effort to prepare our faithful for a better understanding of the significance of the remaining days of Holy Week, we are providing the Synaxarion Reading of each Great and Holy Day beginning with Holy Wednesday May 1. The daily Synaxarion, can be described as a collection of short descriptions of the lives of saints and martyrs, but also of accounts of important events that are commemorated that day. The compilation of these important daily events are as follows:

Great and Holy Wednesday: "On Wednesday of Holy Week it has been ordained by the Holy Fathers that commemoration should be made of the anointing of the Lord with myrrh by the woman who was a sinner, for this occurred shortly before the Passion of the Savior."

Great and Holy Thursday: "The Divine Father, having given good order to all things and in proper succession of readings from the Sacred Epistles and the Holy Gospels, gives us four events to commemorate on Holy and Great Thursday; the sacred act of the feet washing, the mystical supper (that is the tradition of our practice concerning the awesome mysteries) the most wonderful and extraordinary prayer, and the betrayal."

Great and Holy Friday: "On Great Friday is celebrated the Holy saving, and awful Passion of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. For us He willingly endured the spitting, the scourging, the buffeting, the scorn, the mocking, the purple robe, the reed, the sponge, the vinegar, the nails, the spear, and above all, the Cross and Death. Also celebrated is the confession on the cross unto salvation of the penitent thief, who was crucified with Him."

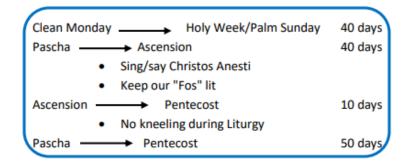
Great and Holy Saturday: On the Great and Holy Saturday we celebrate the Burial of the Divine Body, and the descent of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to Hades, through which He restored our kind, from corruption and transplanted it to eternal life. Wherefore, by Thine ineffable condescension, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Great Sunday of Pascha: On the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the life giving Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ.

With much anticipation and love, our Lord is welcoming us all back into His Holy Church. Come and see! Come and pray! Come and receive! Come and taste! Come and participate! Come and experience all the beauty of Holy Week and the joy of Christ's Holy Resurrection!

Καλή Ανάσταση

Fr. Peter





Holy Week Schedule

HOLY WEDNESDAY - May 1	
Sacrament of Holy Unction(ea	rlier) 3:00 p.m.
Service of the Bridegroom	6:00 p.m.
HOLY THURSDAY - May 2	
Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil	9:00 a.m.
The Service of the Holy Passion (12 Gospels)	6:00 p.m.
HOLY FRIDAY - May 3	
The Descent from the Cross	3:00 p.m.
The Graveside Lamentations	6:00 p.m.
HOLY SATURDAY - May 4	
Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil	9:00 a.m.
Vigil for the Holy Resurrection	11:00 p.m.
"Come Receive the Light" – The Resurrection Service & Divine Liturgy Mageiritsa Dinner follows. All faithful are cordially invited to partake.	11:45 p.m.
PASCHA/EASTER SUNDAY - May 5	
The Agape Vespers Service	12:00 Noon

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

SUNDAYS

THEMES / GOSPEL READING

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Fast - Free Week **FEBRUARY 25th**



Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.

Normal Fast Week MARCH 3rd



The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle:

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.

Meatfare



The Last Judgement Epistle:

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.

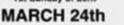
Cheesefare

MARCH 17th FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! **FORGIVENESS SUNDAY**

Romans 13:11-14:4 Epistle: Matthew 6:14-21 Gospel:

Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.

1st Sunday of Lent





GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS

SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

Gospel: John 1:43-51 Bring an icon to church for a procession.

2nd Sunday of Lent





ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.

3rd Sunday of Lent

APRIL 7th



VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS HALF WAY TO PASCHAI

Mark 9:17-31

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Mark 8:34-9:1 Gospel:

Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!

4th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 14th



ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20

Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!

5th Sunday of Lent

APRIL 21st



ST MARY of EGYPT

Gospel:

Hebrews 9:11-14 Epistle: Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.

FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY!

APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 John 12:1-18 Gospel:

Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your carl

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

MAY 3rd



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE

Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.

FEAST OF FEASTS!

MAY 5th NO FASTING!



BRIGHT WEEK

HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17

Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISENI" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

CHURCH should be the reason you miss everything else. Not everything else the reason you miss CHURCH.

Note: Please make every effort to arrive for services a little early. If you happen to arrive late, please observe the following moments in the Divine Liturgy when you **should not enter** the Nave but wait quietly in the Narthex. You may enter <u>after</u> these moments have completed:

- The Priest censing
- The Small Entrance
- The Great Entrance
 - Epistle Reading
 - Gospel Reading
 - The Homily
- Consecration of the Gifts
 - The Lord's Prayer

SEEK CHRIST TODAY! OPEN YOUR HEART TO HIM TODAY! AND USE YOUR WORDS CAREFULLY TODAY, BECAUSE THERE IS POWER IN WORDS AND JUST ONE WORD CAN MAKE OF BREAK SOMEONE.

Stewardship



2024 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)

2024

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME(S), PLEASE INCLUDE CHILDREN UNDER 18.			
STREET ADDRESS		QTY	STATE	ZIP
PREFERRED PHONE	OTHER/SECOND PH	IONE	E-M	MAIL
SIGNATURE	DATE	_	[For office use only]	

ST. ANTHONY GIVING LEVELS:

CONTRIBUTOR: \$499 & below \$9.60/week OR \$42/month & below

FRIEND: \$500 - \$999 \$9.60-\$19/week OR \$42-\$83/month

SUPPORTER: \$1,000 - \$1,999 \$19-\$38/week OR \$83-\$167/month

* FAITHFUL: \$2,000 - \$3,999 \$38-\$77/week OR \$167-\$333/month

* DISCIPLE: \$4,000 - \$6,999 \$77-\$135/week OR \$333-\$583/month

* GUARDIAN: \$7,000 - \$9,999 \$135-\$192/week OR \$583-\$833/month

*ANGEL: \$10,000 - \$14,999 \$192-\$288/week OR \$833-\$1,249/month

* ARCHANGEL: \$15,000 and up \$288/week OR \$1,250/month & up Review your stewardship commitment prayerfully, consider what you offer to Christ's Church in comparison to your monthly utility/ service payments.

Please return your completed commitment card to church by January 31, 2024

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

In response to God's blessings, I/we pledge a 2024 offering of:

My Total Commitment for 2024: \$______

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 per family or above



Commitment of Time and Talents



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

Council of Ministries

Name		Email	Phone
	_Pasadena Greek Fest	Saint Anthony Feast Day	
	_Pasadena Golf Classic	Dinner	Other
	_Palm Sunday Luncheon	Resurrection Magiritsa	Summer Family Picnic
		Parish Events	
	JOY/HOPE	Oratorical Festival	Other
	Greek Language School	St. John Chrysostom	Welcoming Committee
	Greek Dance	Office Volunteers	Volleyball Tournament
	GOYA/Jr. GOYA	Fellowship)	VIPs
	GOYA Basketball	OCF (Orthodox Christian	Vacation Bible School
	Bookstore	Myrrh Bearers	Sunday School
	Bible Studies	Little Lambs	Studies in the Faith
	Acolytes	Kouvouklion	Stewardship Committee

Seek Christ TODAY!

Open your heart to Him TODAY!

And use your words carefully today,
because there is power in words
and just one word
can make or break someone.

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Ministries



2024 PARISH COUNCIL

Perry Vidalakis President

Pete Gallanis 1st Vice President
Joe Akrotirianakis 2nd Vice President

Tashia Vagenas Secretary
Christian Balas Treasurer

> 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

Little Lambs: Teresa Arqueta

PK, TK, & Kindergarten: Irene Albeck, Larissa Maslen, Jenni Nassos

Kindergarten, First & Second: Sophia Syrengelas & Andrianna Lareau

Third, Fourth, & Fifth: Mary Udria & Athena Serban

Middle School: Polly Vagenas & Chris Syrengelas

High School: Presvytera Aida Stratos **April 2024**

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

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

Union Station

Irene Albeck

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

GOYA Anthia Drulias Lucas

Maria Katsas Gittings

Polly Vagenas

GOYA Basketball Pana Gelt

GOYA Volleyball Anthia 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 School Sophia Syrengelas

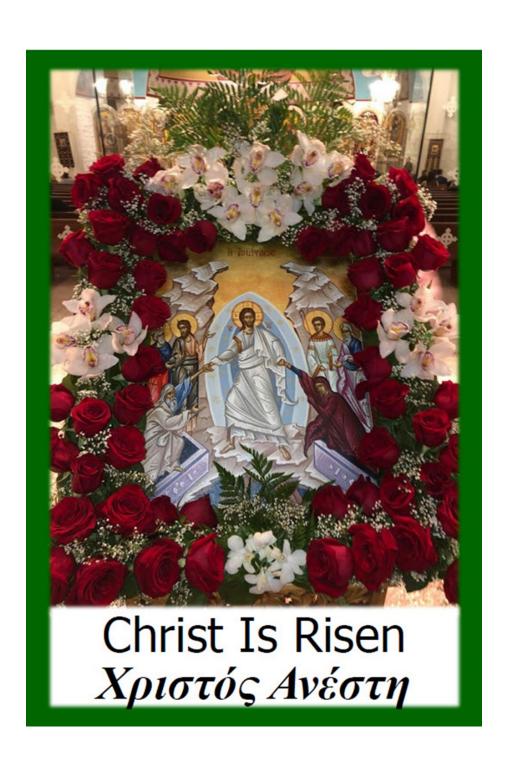
Mary Udria

VIPs Irene Albeck



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Parish Council Report





Our Sunday School year has gone by so quickly and summer break is just around the corner! There never seems to be enough time with our students, but we do our best to make the most of the time we have together and are so grateful to their parents and grandparents for bringing them to church. We have spent the last month learning about Great Lent, preparing for Pascha, and continuing with our lessons in Orthodoxy. Whether working on iconography in high school or learning about Bible stories in PK, our students are engaged in fun, meaningful, and hands-on lessons and activities.

Sunday School hosted coffee hour for Godparent Sunday alongside our VIP ministry. It was heartwarming to see our children attend church with their Godparents and receive Holy Communion together. We took the time in class to talk about the importance of Godparents and allowed the children to share about their baptism day and the different things that make their godparents so special.

Our **last day of class is on Sunday, May 19th.** More information to come regarding our end of year Sunday School recognition. We hope to get as much time as we can with our students before summer break!

Our Sunday School students participated in a Lenten outreach project to benefit Union Station in Pasadena. This project was led and organized by our wonderful teachers, **Noula Serban and Mary Udria**, who collected donations, shopped for the food items needed, and led the kids through making sandwiches and packing lunches. From making cards to packing lunches, it was uplifting to see our students doing something meaningful to benefit those in needs. Thank you to those who donated towards this cause and to all the volunteers who assisted that day.





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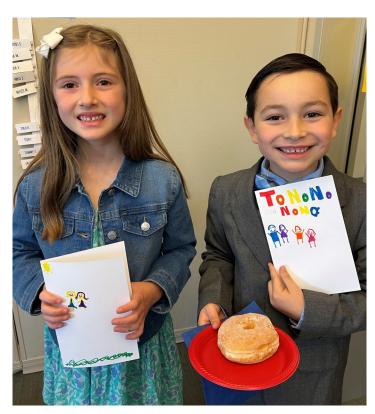


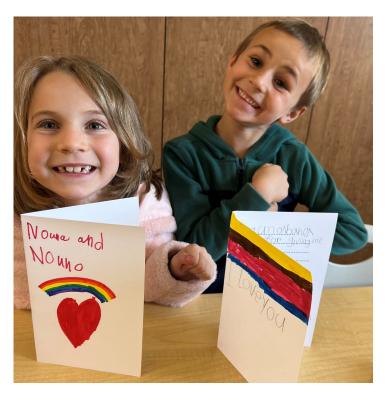




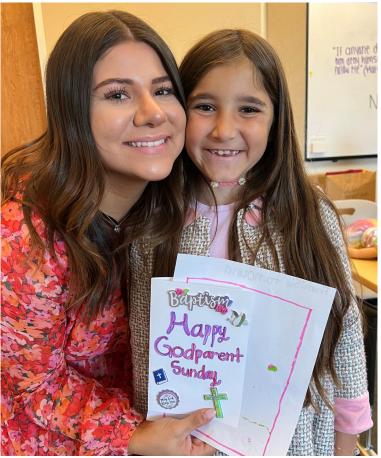












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MATTHEW 19:14

Youth & Young Adults











St. Anthony GOYA Basketball Finals 2024

The Greek Orthodox Basketball League concluded its 50^{th} Anniversary season on Sunday, April 21st. After 9 weeks of league play and finals St. Anthony teams finished in the following places for the play-offs:

Junior Girls: 4th Place Junior Boys: 6th Place Senior Girls: 3rd Place Senior Boys: 3rd Place

Unfortunately, the Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Senior Girls were eliminated in the Quarter Finals on April 13. The Senior Boys fought a tremendous battle against St. Nicholas. After an intense game St. Anthony Senior Boys were victorious! They then advanced to the finals on Sunday, April 21 where they played against St. Sophia. Unfortunately, St. Anthony did not have the game they did the week before and came in Second Place in the Tournament. As a community we are very proud of all our St. Anthony youth for the effort and team work displayed during this long season.

<u>Junior Girls:</u> Alexis Syrengelas, Dimitra Gittings, Eleni Katsafados, Faye Koulos, Gianna Koulos, Kostadina, Ioannou, Maria Syrengelas, Mariella Bicos, Nicoletta Kazaltzes, Tessa Grafos

<u>Junior Boys:</u> Alex Darlas, Alex Mavridis, Alex Vagenas, John Vagenas, John Ioannou, Kostantinos (Dean) Poulopoulos, Lukas, Habrock

<u>Senior Girls:</u> Evangeline Bicos, Valentina Bicos, Madison McNulty, Sophia McNulty, Nancy McNulty, Fotoula Exarchoulakos, Katerina Gittings, Georgia Psihalopoulos, Markela Psihalopoulos, Talia Grafos, Mia Kost

<u>Senior Boys:</u> Athan Darlas, Dylan Udria, Eleas Exarchoulakos, Jack Fuerst, Kyri Vidalakis, Luke McNulty, Niko Lareau, Yianni Kadas

Special Thank you to our dedicated coaches: Chris Syrengelas, Jenny Koulos, Chris Ioannou, Tony Christopoulos, Brian Gelt, Tom Grafos. In addition, we need to extent a very heartfelt appreciation to Pana Gelt for her dedication as the St. Anthony Basketball Representative and coordinator of our St. Anthony basketball program.

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GOBL Special Awards

The GOBL awards one special player from each community who best exemplifies the Four Circles of Orthodoxy:

This ministry in the Orthodox church offers young people the opportunity to experience the Faith through activities utilizing the four circles of Orthodox Christian Faith:

Worship (Liturgia)

Fellowship (Koinonia)

Service (Diakonia)

Witness (Martyria), ultimately with the goal of leading them to Salvation.

Pana Gelt along with the St. Anthony coaches unanimously awarded the 4 Circles award for St. Anthony to **Yianni Kades**.

As a special award for the 50th Anniversary of the GOBL, a Tee-Shirt design contest was held for any GOYA participant. St. Anthony's <u>Katerina Gittings</u> won the contest for her design! She received a \$250.00 gift card.

We are proud of both Yianni and Katerina.

Pee Wee Games

This season the St. Anthony JOY participants enjoyed several games prior to the regular season games. They played against St. Sophia, Assumption and St. George. The participants enjoyed playing against other JOY aged players as a precursor to

joining GOYA Basketball.



Greek Orthodox Basketball League 50th Anniversary Banquet Celebration

The Greek Orthodox Basketball League (GOBL) celebrated their 50th year as a league (1974-2024). Several inaugural activities were planned and held to mark this monumental occasion.

These special events began with a Women's Alumni Game on Saturday, March 30, and the Men's Alumni Game on Saturday, April 6, at St. Sophia Cathedral. Three teams entered the women's division from St. Anthony, Assumption and St. Sophia. In the men's division 5 teams were represented from St. Anthony, Assumption, St. George, St. Katherine, St. Nicholas and St. Sophia. Players from all decades of the GOBL were represented.

Following these two tournaments the finals was held on Saturday, April 20, at St. Sophia. Winners for the Womens Alumni final was Assumption of Long Beach and for the Men's division, St. George, Downey was victorious. The GOBL had two Perpetual Trophies designed for this special inaugural occasion. Winners will hold the trophy for 1 year and then pass it along each year to the winning Alumni teams.

Along with the 5 decades of former GOBL participants, the gymnasium was filled with spectators including children of the participants, and spouses as well as YiaYia's and Papou's!

Following the Alumni Finals on April 20, the GOBL Board held shooting contests for the GOYA basketball players in attendance.

GOBL Recognizes Youth Sports Founders

To mark the occasion of the **Golden Anniversary**, the GOBL extended invitations to all the former commissioners of the league and their families to attend this year's Championship games and Banquet on Sunday, April 21.

St. Anthony has been at the forefront of the Orthodox youth sports program since its inception. Before the GOBL was established in 1974, the St. Anthony Youth Group, as they were named back in the late 1960s had a desire to play softball and advertised in the weekly church bulletin for a coach. That call was answered by a very new member to the Pasadena church area. It was around 1970 when **Dr. Michael Patzakis** moved to California to begin his illustrious medical career. Dr. Patzakis became coach to the St. Anthony Youth. He held practices and began contacting other Orthodox churches around Southern California. What began with a few communities playing coed softball quickly branched out to other sports such as flag football, volleyball, softball, ping pong, bowling, basketball and even a few Junior Olympics.

With these events beginning to take off, Dr. Patzakis organized the Orthodox churches into the first Pan Orthodox Youth League. After a few years of tournaments, the Pan Orthodox Youth League became the Orthodox Basketball League. This was the inception of the Greek Orthodox Basketball League (GOBL). Over 50 years ago Dr. Michael's Patzakis' visionary ideas allowed for the inception of this now 50-yearold league!

Along with Dr. Patzakis' role in this league, St. Anthony has also had three other parishioners who have been involved with the GOBL league. They include, **Dr. James Angelos**, **Chris Harper** and the GOBL'S current commissioner, **Anthia Drulias-Lucas**.

The GOBL recognized the following commissioners: **Michael Patzakis**, Founder Pan-Orthodox, League, 1st GOBL Commissioner **Angelo Revels+**, St, Katherine; 2nd Commissioner **George Martin+**, St. Nicholas; 3rd Commissioner **Don Duncan**, St. Sophia; 4th Commissioner **James Angelos**, St. Anthony; 5th Commissioner **Phillip Martin**, St. Nicholas; 6th Commissioner **Bob Duschinsky**, St. Nicholas; 7th Commissioner **Chris Harper**, St. Anthony; 8th Commissioner **George Papacalos**, Assumption. All former Commissioners and family designees were presented with an icon of Palm Sunday to commemorate the upcoming church holiday.

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St. Anthony Junior Boys

L to R: Alex Mavridis John Ioannou Alex Vagenas Alex Darlas Dean Poulopoulos Lucas Habrock

Not Pictured: John Vagenas

Back Row Coaches: Brian Gelt Tony Christopoulos Tom Grafos not pictured



St. Anthony Junior Girls

L to R:

Eleni Katsafados, Maria Syrengelas, Tessa Grafos, Coach Chris Ioannou, Dimitra Gittings, Mariella, Bicos, Faye Koulos, Kostadina Ioannou, Coach Chris Syrengelas, Nicoletta Kazaltzes, Alexis Syrengelas, Gianna Koulos, Coach Jenny Koulos



St. Anthony Senior Boys

Tom Grafos, Tony Christopoulos coaches
Alex Darlas, Yianni Kades, Elias Exarchoulakis, Brian Gelt coach
Luke McNulty, Jack Fuerst, Athan Darlas, Kari Vidalakis
Not pictured: Niko Lareau, Dylan Udria



St. Anthony Senior Girls

L-R: Markela Psihalopoulos, Mia Kost, Fotula Exarchoulakos, Evangeline Bicos, Coach Chris Syrengelas, Georgia Psihalopoulos, Coach Jenny Koulos, Coach Chris Ioannou Squatting: Katerina Gittings, Talia Grafos

L-R: Nancy McNulty, Sophia McNulty, Valentina Bicos Evangeline Bicos, Madison McNulty

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Men's Alumni Team

Standing L to R: Taso Giannoulis, Kostantinos Dee Raptakis, Bill Kalivas, Hristo Giannoulis, Dino Vagenas, Niko Vagenas, Pete Katsafados, Kostas Kritikos, Niko Kritikos

Kneeling L to R: Stavro Psihalopoulos, Gerg Peerris (Coach), Kostantinos Tsigkounis, Chris Ioannou (Coach)



Women's Alumni Team

Kneeling L to R: Kalliopi Kefalas, Ana Dewer, Katerina Kamar, Christina Dupas, Nikolitsa Vagenas, Christina Vagenas, Didi Petros, Kelli, Kefalas

Standing: L to R: Anthia Drulias-Lucas (Honorary Coach), Eleni Ioannou, Teresa Argueta, Kyriaki, Tsigkounis, Dina Romios, Vas Priebe, Jenny Poulopoulos-Koulos, Sophia Syrengelas

Not Pictured: Michele Patzakis



L to R:

Georgia Psihalopoulos, Fotoula Exarchoulakos - Senior Girls Alex Darlas - Jr. Boy Jack Fuerst, Elias Exarchoulakos - Sr. Boys Maria Syrengelas, Mariella Bicos - Jr. Girls Alex Vagenas - Jr. Boy







Katerina Gittings awarded \$250.00 for winning the 50th Anniversary Tee-Shirt design contest.

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CALLING ALL GOYANS !!!!

St Anthony GOYA is excited to be hosting our Annual Volleyball Tournament once again and we want all GOYAns to join us on Saturday, May 11th at Victory Park in Pasadena. For more information and required forms, please use the following link:

https://forms.gle/okxYTVrNEZnu7YGd8

Team sign-ups are easy. Let us know how many teams you are entering. Rosters and fees can be submitted the day of the tournament.

DEADLINE: May 3rd so we can start working on the brackets.

Any questions ??

Contact Anthia Lucas - (626) 274-6133 cell or text

God Bless and we hope to see you there!

St Anthony GOYA

Philoptochos

Good Works

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, Beverages - \$40.

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

We invite you to help us feed the needy by making a contribution towards this work. 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:

Irene Albeck mcmg2a@aol.com

Vangie Dupas vangiedupas@sbcglobal.net
Christina Kades christinekades@gmail.com

"You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land."

Deuteronomy 15:11



Community Happenings

Attention High School Seniors - Philoptochos of Saint Anthony Scholarship Applications are still available. Submission deadline has been extended to May 14, 2024. Please see Scholarship Flier and Guidelines below or contact Presbytera Aida Stratos at presaida?@gmail.com for more information.



PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

778 South Rosemead Boulevard • Pasadena, California • 91107 • 626.449.6943

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - 2024 RULES & REGULATIONS

- The parents of the applicant (or the applicant him or herself) must be members in good standing of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church for at least one year preceding the date of the scholarship application.
- A parent of the applicant must be a member of Philoptochos Society of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church, Panagia Chapter.
- Applicant must be planning to continue their education for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Education goal may be a four-year institute, technical or career training program.
- The applicant must have a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - a. Academic achievement/and or merit
 - b. Church and participation in Saint Anthony youth activities
 - c. Community service and/or leadership qualities.
 - d. Citizenship

6. Applicants must:

- a. Complete and submit all required application documents by Tuesday, May 14 2024. Documents may be submitted by conventional mail or through email.
- Arrange for his or her current academic transcript to be mailed from the academic institution to the church office (Attention: Philoptochos Scholarship Committee);
- Submit an autobiographical essay, approximately 300 words double spaced, 12-point font size, stating influences on the applicant's life and addresses future goals;
- d. Submit two (2) letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a high school counselor or teacher;
- e. Report for a personal interview if requested by the Scholarship Committee.
- f. Attach a recent photo of themselves to the application form.
- 7. The Philoptochos Society of Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church is not obligated to grant any scholarships in a given year. The Scholarship Committee and Father Peter will carefully review all applications. The Committee's decision shall be final.
- Scholarship recipients will be notified by mail. Scholarships will be presented personally at the annual June Philoptochos General Meeting.

All information in this application will be held in strict confidence.



PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

778 South Rosemead Boulevard * Pasadena, California * 91107 * 626.449.6943

PHILOPTOCHOS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION - 2024

APPLICANT INFORMATION		医多种种类	
Name			
Date of birth	Phone		
Current Address			
Email			
High School Attended			
School Address			
Dates Attended		GPA	
Please list extracurricular activities you have participated in while In school:			
Please list activities you have participated in while attending Saint Anthony:			
FAMILY INFORMATION			
Parents' Names			
Names of Siblings			
SIGNATURE			
I VERIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND CORRECT.			
Applicant's Signature		Date	

APPLICANT, PLEASE ATTACH A RECENT PHOTO OF YOURSELF TO THIS APPLICATION.

Completed applications may be submitted to the church office or a scholarship committee member. (Attention: Philoptochos Scholarship Committee) by April 26, 2024

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Thank you to our community members for their generosity and support of Holy Cross School of Theology. The collection was held during church on Sunday of the Holy Cross, the third Sunday of Great Lent.

Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale!

A big THANK YOU to Lisa Xanthos, Helen Skandale, and to all our bakers who helped with the Easter bake sale. These volunteers baked and wrapped delicious sweets for pre-ordered pickup and sold additional items on Palm Sunday to the parish community. All proceeds will benefit Kids 'n' Cancer's - Camp Agape, a Philoptochos ministry dedicated to providing support to the families of children afflicted with cancer.











Pascha Book Sale for Children

St. Anthony Philoptochos held its 2^{nd} annual Children's Religious Book Sale specifically for the youngest members of our community. A variety of age-appropriate children's religious books and Easter gifts were sold after liturgy on several Sundays prior to Pascha. This Philoptochos project was spearheaded by Maria Hronas who provided the leadership that brought this ministry to the children of St. Anthony Church.



Mosaic Crosses - March General Meeting

In March, Philoptochos members had fun decorating beautiful wooden mosaic crosses under the creative direction of Jeanne Karaioannoglou.



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COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP









Host a Coffee Hour

Celebrate a Name Day, Birthday, Anniversary, Loved One or as a Family Activity!

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. If you would like your name or event included in the weekly bulletin, notify the Church Office by the Wednesday prior to the date chosen at 626.449.6943 or by email at office@saint-anthonys.org

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

- 2. **Bring snacks for 75 adults and kids** Suggestions include: Pastries, Bagels, Muffins, Cakes, Cookies, Mini Deli Sandwiches, Cheese & Crackers, Olives, Dolmades, Hummus, Tzatziki, Pita, Raw Vegetables, Fruit, Salads or anything you would enjoy!
- 3. Bring food items plated on serving trays/bowls and ready to serve by 10:00am 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.

Upcoming Philoptochos Meetings

2024 Christmas Benefit Planning Meeting - Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the church hall. We invite you to come help us plan our largest fundraiser of the year. This year's event will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2024 at The Langham Huntington Hotel.

March Board Meeting - Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM

General Assembly Meeting - Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 6:30 PM. Further details to come.

SAVE the DATE Wednesday evening, **June 19, 2024** for our End of the Year Dinner & Scholarship Presentation. Further information coming soon.

Upcoming Metropolis & National Events

Metropolis Events

Kids 'N Cancer - Agape: A Celebration of Love

A luncheon was held on Sunday, April 14, 2024 at the Newport Beach Country Club. This annual event helped raise awareness for the ministry of providing support for children afflicted with cancer and their families. It was a beautiful, fun-filled afternoon giving those attending the opportunity to participate in fundraising, to meet Camp Agape families, and to enjoy fellowship. Over \$300K was raised. Maria Kypreos, a San Francisco Metropolis Philoptochos board member and our St. Anthony Philoptochos sister, served as co-chair with Cindy Kezos. Several St. Anthony Philoptochos members attended this worthy event.



St. Anthony Philoptochos President, Judith Din, presents Panagia Chapter donation.

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National Philoptochos Convention

June 30-July 4, 2024 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina.

Event details at: https://philoptochosconvention.ufairs.com/



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: St. Anthony Philoptochos Instagram: stanthonyphiloptochos

2024 Philoptochos Membership



PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY OF SAINT ANTHONY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

778 South Rosemead Boulevard · Pasadena, California 91107

March 8, 2024

"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,

Welcome to our new Membership Year! If you are a current member, it is time to renew your membership for 2024. If you are not a member, we would love for you to join us!

Did you know that Philoptochos was established over **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.

We encourage every woman in our parish, 18 years 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 welcome to join as Associate members. When we combine our strengths and skills, great things happen!

As we embark on a new year, we want to share with you our charitable accomplishments. Please see the reverse side to see the many charities we support locally, nationally and through our San Francisco Metropolis. Our 2023 Christmas Benefit Luncheon chose to support Forever Kids' Case for Character program. Forever Kids' Case for Character program was started to help provide kids in foster care hope for a brighter future and a place to which they can always connect, no matter where in life they may be.

In 2021, National Philoptochos disbursed close to \$1,800,000 to those in need. Last year, our Panagia Chapter donated more than \$45,000 to charities and those in need.

Please, renew or join by mail: enclose your registration form and a 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.

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

Yours in Christ.

Judith Din Antsos

President

Helen Skandale & Lisa Xanthos

2nd Vice Presidents

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The following charities are supported by St. Anthony Philoptochos:

Chapter Charities

CAST, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking

City of Hope

Forever Kids

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

2024 Philoptochos Membership	2024 Associate (Men / Non-Ve	-	te
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 p	refer your notices mailed	l, please, let us know by c	hecking here
St. Anthony's Philoptochos Stewards	hip (membership dues).	Select amount below:	
Each \$50 stewardship supports Nations St. Anthony Philoptochos obligations	and projects (\$20).	\$125 San Francisco Metropol CheckCredit C	
I am interested in helping with the follow Feeding the Hungry Delivering Meals to Parishioners Homebound Visitations Telephone Tree	owing:Hosting FelBaking & CFundraising Social Med	Cooking _	Marketing Website Designer Other Talents Specify
2024 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, p		•	skandale (818) 618-4963



The April VIP meeting was called to order in the Community Center on Tuesday, April 9 by President Irene Albeck with an opening prayer led by Stavrula Kiotas.

Irene began her report by asking the 29 members in attendance to sign an Easter card to be sent to Mrs. Eleni Christodoulelis in Greece. She then presented information on how individuals over the age of seventy can renew their driver's license on-line using an eLearning course instead of going to the DMV for the dreaded "in-person" knowledge test. For those individuals who no longer drive, Irene then provided information on a "rides for seniors and people with disabilities" service called GoGo. This service works in conjunction with Uber and Lyft drivers to ensure that affordable and convenient rides are available for users of this service.

It was announced that Herman Smith was in the hospital and we sent him our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Judie Christopoulos then discussed the planned outing to **Forest Lawn-Glendale** on Thursday, April 25th. Irene also offered comments on an outing proposed by Dr. Nick Kokoris to the **Doheny Eye Institute** sometime in the near future.

Irene put forth the proposal that nominations for officers for the new year be made at the November meeting with a vote to be taken in December. In this way, the slate of new officers would be in place for the January meeting of the new year.

Our members celebrating birthdays in April included: Marietta Bicos, Virginia Lappas, Kelly Mavredakis, Yngrid Molinari, and Gus Pappas. Our two birthday celebrants in attendance at the meeting were Yngrid Molinari and Virginia Lappas who kindly provided a delicious pizza and salad luncheon with halva for dessert. Thank you ladies for your hospitality and MANY HAPPY RETURNS!!

On Thursday, April 25th, twenty-two of our members made the trip to Forest Lawn-Glendale for our scheduled outing to see the unparalleled views of the Los Angeles skyline and cemetery grounds, marvel at Leonardo DaVinci's *Last Supper*, recreated in stained glass in the Great Mausoleum Building, and witness the largest painting in the world depicting Christ's crucifixion, and another painting of Christ's resurrection located in the Hall of the Crucifixion-Resurrection.

Polish artist Jan Styka's masterpiece *The Crucifixion* measures 195 feet long by 45 feet high and is housed together with companion work *The Resurrection*, painted by American artist Robert Clark.

After spending an enjoyable and informative morning at Forest Lawn, our group made its way to Montrose for an enjoyable luncheon and camaraderie at Gus and Andy's Kitchen and Bar.

The VIPs will meet this month on Tuesday, May 14th in the Community Center. We wish our entire Saint Anthony Family *Kali Anastasi*!!

Jim Hronas
VIP Communications













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Community News & more...

Saint Sophia EASTER PICNIC

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024 1PM - 7PM

Please Note: Entrance gate to picnic will not open until 1 pm

Fabulous Foods and Desserts will be available for purchase

- Souvlaki, gyros, feta fries, Greek salad and more
- Baklava, Galatoboureko, Karidopita, Kourambiedes, Melomakarona, Koulourakia and Tsourekia
- @ Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks, Coffee, Water
- **⊘** CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ONLY
- Free Parking and Picnic Tables.
- For health and safety, NO PETS are allowed in the park

ENTRY FEE

Adults (13 & older) \$15 Children 12 & under FREE

EASTER BUNNY!

The Easter Bunny will be there from 2 pm to 3 pm with toys for the kids!

BROOKSIDE PARK PASADENA

360 N Arroyo Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91103

MORE INFORMATION

Stephanie Caiopoulos Lubian easterpicnic@aol.com

Celebrate the Resurrection!

Save the Dates

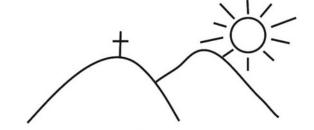




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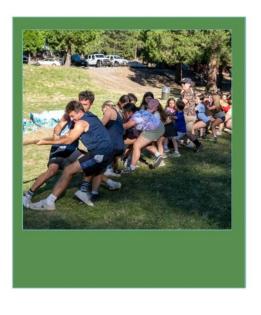
SAINT SOPHIA CAMP 2024



WEEK 1: July 21-July 27 WEEK 2: July 27-August 3

Saint Sophia Camp offers a unique and enriching Greek Orthodox Summer Camp experience.

Get ready for a Summer of Faith, Fellowship and Tons of Fun!





CAMPERS: AGES 7-17
REGISTER on MAY 1ST!
COUNSELORS: 18+
APPLY on APRIL 1ST!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: saintsophiacamp.org



JOIN OUR 2024 SUMMER CAMP STAFF!

CABIN COUNSELORS - PROGRAM STAFF - LEADERSHIP TEAM
LIFEGUARDS - MEDICAL STAFF - PHOTOGRAPHERS - VIDEOGRAPHERS

WWW.GOSFYOUTH.ORG



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2024 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

SESSION 1: JULY 7 - 13

SESSION 2: JULY 14 - 20

SESSION 3: JULY 21 - 27

WWW.GOSFYOUTH.ORG

SUMMERCAMP

AT SAINT NICHOLAS RANGE

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METROPOLIS SUMMER CAMP 2024

All Youth ages 8-18 from across our Metropolis are invited to attend our Metropolis Summer Camp this July at St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends, reunite with old friends, and learn more about our faith. Online camper registration is open, and spots are quickly filling up. The Metropolis is also looking for dynamic and faithful young adults, ages 19 or older, to serve as part of the camp staff. They are also in need of medical and lifeguard staff, so please encourage anyone to apply who you know would be an outstanding addition to the Metropolis Staff.

2024 SUMMER CAMP DATES

Session 1: July 7 - 13 Session 2: July 14 - 20 Session 3: July 21 - 27

CAMPER AGES

The youngest campers are 8 years old (or entering 3rd grade in Fall 2024) and the oldest are 18 years old (or will be graduating High School in Spring 2024).

SESSION 1 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BUS

If you are from Southern California and will be attending Session 1, there will be a bus that will be stopping at 3 parishes along the way to St. Nicholas Ranch.

More information: https://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/socalbussession1>

SUMMER CAMP STAFF

We cannot put on summer camp without our incredible staff! We are looking for young adults who are 19 years of age or older. Applications are open until March 10. Please encourage young adults to apply by using this link: https://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/staff-applications>

MEDICAL STAFF

We are always in need of medical staff while at camp. If you are a licensed medical professional or know someone who is, please encourage them to contact me directly at this email or apply on our website: https://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/medical-staff-application>. We especially love having MD's, NP's, and RN's!

AMAZON WISH LIST

Help us keep down the cost of camp by making a donation from our Amazon Wish List using this link: https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/3KIOBRA2F95R8>.

With Love in Christ.

Johanna Duterte Carter Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Metropolis Camp Director Metropolis Youth Safety Administrator (MYSA)

Cell: (408) 712-7658<tel:%28408%29%20712-7658>

Email: JDuterte@sanfran.goarch.org<mailto:JDuterte@sanfran.goarch.org>

Website: www.qosfyouth.org>

Youth Safety Link: youthsafetyplatform.goarch.org

St. Anthony Bowling League



Winter/Spring Results



On Thursday, April 11, St. Anthony Bowling League concluded its Winter/Spring season. Twenty-seven bowlers forming 9 teams once again enjoyed 12 weeks of fun and fellowship.

Results for this season were as follows:

1st Place: Team 8 Maria Conley, Ted Dupas, Jim Nichols

2nd Place: Team 4 Andrea Lappas, Marianne Nichols, Peter Bissias

3rd Place: Team 6 Joyce Nichols, Elleni Conley, Chris Conley

4th Place: Team 3 Alice Jacquez, Anthia Lucas, Rick Nassif

5th Place: Team 5 Sophia Angelos, Syrus Mobayen, Parviz Mobayen

6th Place: Team 9 Vincent Lappas, Virginia Lappas, Alexandra Katsas

7th Place: Team 7 Kris McGregor, Chrissa Mobayen, Lee Anton

8th Place: Team 2 Nicoleta Masouris, Vlasi Masouris, Mihai Serban

9th Place: Team 1 Jim Horaites, Bryan Gittings, Maria Katsas

Individual high games for Women:

High Scratch Game: Score: 188 Andrea Lappas

High Scratch Series: Score: 411 Sophia Angelos

High Handicap Game: Score: 256 Alexandra Katsas

High Handicap Series: Score: 661 Joyce Nichols

Individual High Games for Men:

High Scratch Game: Score: 203 Syrus Mobayen

High Scratch Series: Score: 477 Vlasi Masouris

High Handicap Game: Score: 255 Vincent Lappas

High Handicap Series: Score: 651 Mihai Serban

Thank you to all our bowlers from St. Anthony and St. Paul in Irvine, along with our non-Orthodox friends, for a wonderful season. Looking forward to the fall and adding new bowlers.

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Andrea Lappas, Peter Bissias



Parvia Mobayen, Sophia Angelos, Syrus Mobayen



Rick Nassif, Anthia Lucas, Alice Jacquez



Joyce Nichols, Chris Conley, Elleni Conley



Alexandra Katsas, Virginia Lappas, Vincent Lappas



Ted Dupas, Maria Conley Jim Nichols,



Chrissa Mobayen, Lee Anton, Kris McGregor



Vlasi Masouris, Nicoleta Masouris, Mihai Serbian



Church Etiquette

When are we NOT to enter the Nave of the Church?

As we are entering God's Home, we must always keep in mind that during the following times, we should NOT enter the Nave of the Church nor come to the front of the Church to light a votive candle:

During the Small Entrance (when the procession with the Gospel takes place)

During the Epistle Reading

During the Gospel Reading

When the priest is censing and is facing the Congregation

During the Great Entrance (when the procession of the Holy Gifts takes place)

When the priest is blessing the Congregation

During the recitation of the Nicene Creed ("I believe...")

During the Consecration of the Holy Gifts

During the recitation of the Lord's Prayer ("Our Father...")

During the Priest's sermon

Also, during these times, we should avoid leaving the Nave unless it is for family needs, medical or some other necessary reason. If you are unsure when to enter or leave the church, ask a Parish Council member in the Narthex.

While in the Church, remember to...

Wear appropriate attire to enter God's House

Silence your mobile devices

Refrain from chewing gum, mints, or candy

Remove lipstick when receiving Holy Communion & when venerating & kissing the icons

Follow the direction of the Priest for standing & sitting

Maintain quiet in the Sanctuary

Enter God's House with reverence and respect



Events After Jesus' Death

Resurrection

Jesus appears to Disciples (40 Days)

Ascension

Pentecost

Disciples wait in Jerusalem (10 Days)

Great 50 Days of Easter

The Ascension of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ **Forty Days after Pascha**

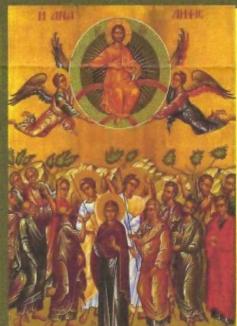
"He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud that took Him from their sight." (Acts 1:9)

shaped design that signifies His divinity and glorified state.

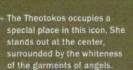


- He is being carried by one angel on either side.
- With His right hand, Christ gives His blessing as He departs from His beloved people.
- We, the Church, receive His blessing
- The icon of the Ascension includes some who did not witness the
- St. Paul is shown to the left of the Theotokos, but we know that at that time, St. Paul did not yet
- e, like St. Paul, are called to rticipate in Christ's Ascension and experience our own ascension, _____ with our hearts and minds focused on Him.





- In His left hand is a scroll, symbolizing
- A scroll is a symbol of teaching. The icon affirms that Christ is the source of all knowledge.



- Her hands are in a gesture
- appearance of the Disciples, who are moving about, talking to one another and looking and pointing towards heaven.
- The entire group of people, the Theotokos and the disciples,
- Just as their gaze is riveted upon their beloved Christ, so we are called in every Divine Liturgy to "lift up our hearts to the Lord."

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ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES !!!

If you are graduating from high school or college this summer and wish to be included in **The Voice Newsletter - June Issue**, please submit the following information:

Your Name

Parents names

School from which you are graduating

Your graduation photo or any photo if grad photo not available—head shot preferred

High school graduates:

List college or university you will be attending

College grads:

List your course of study and degree

Please send all requested information to: newsletter church@aol.com

DEADLINE: May 25th



Upcoming Church Festivals - 2024

May

Anaheim 5/17 - 19

Northridge 5/25-27

<u>June</u>

Downey 6/1-2

San Diego 6/8 - 9

Iruine 6/21 - 23

Camarillo 6/28-30



July

Redondo 7/12-14

September

Long Beach 9/6-8

Covina TBD

Pasadena 9/20-9/22

SanJuanCapo 9/21-22

October

Los Angeles 10/5-6

The Voice of Saint Anthony January 2024

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

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

Circumcision of Christ/

Saint Basil

1 January

Holy Theophany/ Epiphany

6 January

Saint John the Baptist

7 January

St. Anthony the Great

17 January

Gregory the Theologian

25 January

Three Hierarchs

30 January

Priest's Message

Stewardship

Ministries

Parish Council

Sunday School

Youth/Young Adults

Philoptochos

VIPs

Community News, etc.

Monthly Lesson

Saints of the Month

Orthodox Calendar



Saint Anthony the Great 17 January

Deadline for February Newsletter is Thursday, 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.

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Monthly Lesson from Father Stavros Akrotirianakis

So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold or hot, I will spew you out of my mouth.

Revelation 3:16

Passover was the feast of the Jews commemorating their liberation from Egypt after 450 years of slavery. The angel of death descended on Egypt and killed the first born in each household. The only way to avoid this was to take the blood of a lamb (which was killed outside the city wall with none of its bones broken on the day of preparation before the Sabbath). This sets up three things. First, the Jews were celebrating Passover at the time of the crucifixion. Second, Jesus is the new Passover Lamb, killed outside the city wall at noon on the day of preparation for the Sabbath, none of His bones broken. And third, our feast of Pascha (which is the Orthodox word for Easter, our feast of the Resurrection) literally translates as Passover. So our Pascha is the New Passover, because by the blood of Christ, we pass from death to life.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus entered Jerusalem during the week of the Passover. There were probably tens (if not hundreds) of thousands of people who were in the city for the occasion. Many of them knew who Jesus was. His fame had spread throughout the region because of His teaching and miracles. Remember the feeding of the 5,000 men, plus women and children—that was probably 15,000 people who experienced that miracle and knew it was Jesus who had done it Many had heard about the raising of Lazarus, just the day before. In fact, the Gospel of John tells us that the reason why many people went out to see Jesus enter into Jerusalem is that they "heard He had done this sign," (John 12:18) the Messianic sign of raising the dead.

People lined the streets and greeted Jesus as He came into the city as if He were a king. They waved palm branches, in front of Him. They laid their garments on the streets so He would pass over them on the donkey He was riding on. They cheered "Hosanna" for Him. And five days later, they lined the streets again, and this time they chanted "Crucify Him!" And they waved fists in anger, spit on Him, derided Him, and once He exited the city and was crucified, they all abandoned Him and went about their business, satisfied that He would be killed and they would never hear from Him again.

How can we explain that the sentiments of the crowd turned from adulation to condemnation, from praise to murder in just five short days?

I can think of at least three possibilities:

- 1) Lack of knowledge and just going along with the crowd. Perhaps there were people standing in the crowd on Palm Sunday who didn't really know who Jesus was, but when the crowd started cheering for Him, they all went along because it was the popular thing to do. And on Good Friday, the same people, who still didn't know anything, started jeering at Him, again just going along with the crowd.
- 2) Anger and misunderstanding Who Jesus was. There were probably people in the crowd who had some understanding of Jesus as a king. They probably had the thought that He would overthrow the Romans and restore their country to them. What a better time to do it than the Passover! They cheered for the man on the donkey while perhaps wondering why it wasn't a chariot and where were the armies He commanded. And then Jesus was in Jerusalem for five days and nothing changed. So when Jewish leaders demanded crucifixion for their own reasons, others in the crowd might have thought "we have our reasons too (Jesus' failure to liberate the city)" and demand crucifixion as well.

3) Lack of commitment and fear. There were undoubtedly people who believed in Jesus as the Messiah in the crowd. People who had heard the Sermon on the Mount, people who had been fed with five loaves and two fish, probably even people who had been healed by Jesus at some point. But when they heard the volume of the chants for crucifixion, when they saw the tide turned against Jesus, they couldn't commit for fear of what might happen to them.

As we celebrate Palm Sunday, we are all in the crowd. Jesus has come to save us. For two thousand years, the message of salvation has been shared by the Church. Billions have chosen the path to salvation. And billions more have made that path difficult, have persecuted those on the path, have denied Christ, or are ignorant of Him still. There are some who also have never heard of Him. You and I are in the crowd. And in many pockets of our country, the crowd is becoming hostile against Jesus, demanding that His teachings be modified, demanding He be canceled, declaring Him to be the problem rather than the Savior. And like those people in the crowd in Jerusalem two thousand years ago, we each have a decision to make. Will we shout "Hosanna!"? Will we shout "Crucify Him!"? Will we remain silent? Those are our choices.

Revelation 3:16 reads: "Because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth" Some of us have a lot of knowledge of Christ and some of us have little. This is God's condemnation on those who stand silent in the crowd.

This leaves us then two choices: either we are with Christ, or we are not. And our belief cannot merely be acknowledgement but action, it can't merely be sentiment but it has to be trust. And trust requires action, it requires us to commit.

Psalms 37:5 tells us to "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act" and Proverbs 16:3 tells us "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established."

People in those crowds two thousand years ago were not committed. They were lukewarm. There is virtually no way a person could treat Jesus like a king and mean it, and then five days later demand He be murdered and mean it. There was a lack of commitment in the first crowd, and then fear, as well as lack of commitment in the second one. If we are going to be serious about our Christianity, we have to stop listening to the crowd, because the crowd will change its opinions based on the sentiment of the day. (Remember 9/11, it was "cool" to be a Christian back then, everyone wanted to sing "God bless America!") We have to stop listening to the crowd and listen to our own hearts, commit in our own being, and then trust God, even if it means the crowd goes against us. And that's hard, and that's scary. But that's also faith. Jesus died for us, He did what was hard and scary. And what He did demands a response. Our commitment.

Use the rest of this Holy Week to assess your commitment to Christ and to recommit.

Stop listening to the crowd, and in prayer, worship and Scripture reading, listen to the voice of God speaking to your own heart and soul.

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Saints & Feasts

Holy Wednesday

01 May

Two women - the more discerning interpreters of the Gospel - anointed the Lord with myrrh; the one, a long time before His Passion; the other, a few days before. One was a harlot and sinner; the other, chaste and virtuous. The Church commemorates this reverent act today. While mentioning herein the person of the harlot, it also mentions Judas' betrayal; for, according to the account in Matthew, both of these deeds took place two days before the Passover, on Wednesday. That woman, then, anointed Jesus' head and feet with very precious myrrh, and wiped them with the tresses of her hair. The disciples, especially the avaricious Judas, were scandalized, supposedly because of the waste of the myrrh, which could be sold for a great price and given to the poor. The Lord Jesus reproved them and told them not to trouble the woman. Indignant, Judas went to the high priests, who were gathered in the court of Caiaphas and were already taking counsel against Jesus. On agreeing with them to betray his Teacher for thirty pieces of silver, Judas sought from that time opportunity to betray Him (Matt. 26:14-16). Because the betrayal took place on Wednesday, we have received the tradition from Apostolic times to fast on Wednesday throughout the year.



Holy Thursday

O2 May

On the evening of this day, which was the eve of the feast of unleavened bread (that is, the Passover), our Redeemer supped with His twelve disciples in the city. He blessed the bread and the wine, and gave us the Mystery of the Divine Eucharist. He washed the feet of the disciples as an example of humility. He said openly that one of them was about to betray Him, and He pointed out the betrayer by revealing that it was he "that dippeth his hand with Me in the dish." And after Judas had straight-away gone forth, Jesus gave the disciples His final and sublime instructions, which are contained in the first Gospel Reading of the Holy Passion (John 13:31-18:1 known as the Gospel of the Testament). After this the God-man went forth to the Mount of Olives, and there He began to be sorrowful and in anguish. He went off alone, and on His knees He prayed fervently. From His great anguish, His sweat became as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground. As soon as He had completed that anguished prayer, Judas came with a multitude of soldiers and a great crowd; on greeting the Teacher guilefully with a kiss, he betrayed Him. The Lord Jesus was then apprehended and taken prisoner to the high priests Annas and Caiaphas. The disciples were scattered, but Peter, who was more fervent than the others, followed Him even into the court of the high priest, but in the end denied three times that he was His disciple. Then our divine Teacher was brought before the lawless Sanhedrin and was interrogated concerning His disciples and His teaching. The high priest adjured Him before God that He tell them whether He was truly the Christ. And having spoken the truth, He was judged guilty of death, supposedly as one who had blasphemed. Then they spat in His face, beat Him, smote Him with the palms of their hands, and mocked Him in every way, throughout the whole night until the morning.



Holy Friday

03 May

When Friday dawned, Christ was sent bound from Caiaphas to Pontius Pilate, who was then Governor of Judea. Pilate interrogated Him in many ways, and once and again acknowledged that He was innocent, but to please the Jews, he later passed the sentence of death against Him. After scourging the Lord of all as though He were a runaway slave, he surrendered Him to be crucified.

Thus the Lord Jesus was handed over to the soldiers, was stripped of His garments, was clothed in a purple robe, was crowned with a wreath of thorns, had a reed placed in His hand as though it were a sceptre, was bowed before in mockery, was spat upon, and was buffeted in the face and on the head. Then they again clothed Him in His own garments, and bearing the cross, He came to Golgotha, a place of condemnation, and there, about the third hour, He was crucified between two thieves. Although both blasphemed Him at the first, the thief at His right hand repented, and said: "Remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom," to which our Savior answered, "Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise." As He hung upon the Cross, He was blasphemed by those who were passing by, was mocked by the high priests, and by the soldiers was given vinegar to drink mixed with gall. About the ninth hour, He cried out with a loud voice, saying, "It is finished." And the Lamb of God "Which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29) expired on the day when the moon was full, and at the hour when, according to the Law, was slain the Passover lamb, which was established as a type of Him in the time of Moses.

Even lifeless creation mourned the death of the Master, and it trembled and was altered out of fear. Yet, even though the Maker of creation was already dead, they pierced Him in His immaculate side, and forthwith came there out Blood and Water. Finally, at about the setting of the sun, Joseph of Arimathea came with Nicodemus (both of them had been secret disciples of Jesus), and they took down the all-holy Body of the Teacher from the Cross and anointed it with aromatic spices, and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth. When they had buried Him in a new tomb, they rolled a great stone over its entrance.

Such are the dread and saving sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ commemorated today, and in remembrance of them, we have received the Apostolic commandment that a fast be observed every Friday.



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Holy Saturday O4 May

On Saturday, the high priests and Pharisees gathered together before Pilate and asked him to have Jesus' tomb sealed until the third day; because, as those enemies of God said, "We suspect that His disciples will come and steal His buried body by night, and then proclaim to the people that His resurrection is true, as that deceiver Himself foretold while He was yet alive; and then the last deception shall be worse than the first." After they had said these things to Pilate and received his permission, they went and sealed the tomb, and assigned a watch for security, that is, quards from among the soldiers under the supervision of the high priests (Matt. 27:62-66). While commemorating the entombment of the holy Body of our Lord today, we also celebrate His dread descent with His soul, whereby He destroyed the gates and bars of Hades, and made His light to shine where only darkness had reigned (Job 3 8 : 17; Esaias 49:9; 1 Peter 3:18-20); death was put to death, Hades was stripped of all its captives, our first parents and all the righteous who died from the beginning of time ran to Him Whom they had awaited, and the holy angelic orders glorified God for the restoration of our fallen race



Great & Holy Pascha O5 May

Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Savior on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. On the morrow, because of the law which forbids work on the day of the Sabbath, they rested for the whole day. But at early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulchre with the spices to anoint His body.

While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulchre, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards who were there became as dead from fear and took to flight. The women, however, went into the sepulchre, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Savior was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings. Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had come to pass, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets.

Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, then, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose "while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.



Continued....

As we celebrate today this joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Saviour's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting. The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honour of the Lord; in honour and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labor that was formerly assigned to the Sabbath of the ancient Law.

All foods allowed during Bright/Renewal Week.

Saint Thomas

12 May

Though the doors were shut at the dwelling where the disciples were gathered for fear of the Jews on the evening of the Sunday after the Passover, our Saviour wondrously entered and stood in their midst, and greeted them with His customary words, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed unto them His hands and feet and side; furthermore, in their presence, He took some fish and a honeycomb and ate before them, and thus assured them of His bodily Resurrection. But Thomas, who was not then present with the others, did not believe their testimony concerning Christ's Resurrection, but said in a decisive manner, "Except I shall 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." Wherefore after eight days, that is, on this day, when the disciples were again gathered together and Thomas was with them, the Lord Jesus came while the doors were shut, as He did formerly. Standing in their midst, He said, "Peace be unto you"; then He said to Thomas, "Bring hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and bring hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not unbelieving, but believing."

And Thomas, beholding and examining carefully the hands and side of the Master, cried out with faith, "My Lord and my God." Thus he clearly proclaimed the two natures - human and divine - of the God-man (Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-29).

This day is called Antipascha (meaning "in the stead of Pascha," not "in opposition to Pascha") because with this day, the first Sunday after Pascha, the Church consecrates every Sunday of the year to the commemoration of Pascha, that is, the Resurrection.



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Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women

19 May

About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to the sepulcher, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body.

It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most holy Virgin Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called "the mother of James and Joses" (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silent. Together with them we also celebrate the secret disciples of the Savior, Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Savior's preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counselors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord's body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matthew 27:60)



Sunday of the Paralytic 26 May

Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had round about it five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies, awaiting the moving of the water. The first to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel way lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool."

The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house.

According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles.

According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.



Orthodox Calendar

May 2024

SUN	Mon	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Holy Wednesday	Holy Thursday 4:30 Greek School	Holy Friday	Holy Saturday
				Holy	Week	
5 Great & Holy Pascha	6 4:30 Greek School	7	7pm Philopotochos Board Mtg	9 4:30 Greek School	10	GOYA Volleyball
		Brig	ht/Renewal \	Week		
Sunday of St. Thomas 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy 12:15 Hope/Joy Meeting 12:15 GOYA Meeting	4:30 Greek School	10:30 VIPs 7pm Parish Concl	15	16 4:30 Greek School	17	18
Indoor & Live-stream	20	21	App 22	? 23	April 24	25
Sunday of Myrrh Bearing Women 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy Graduation Sunday Last Day of Sunday School	4:30 Greek School	Sts. Constantine & Helen 9am Orthros 10am Divine Lit.	7pm Philopotochos General Mtg	4:30 Greek School		
Indoor & Live-stream						
26 Sunday of Paralytic 8:45am Orthros 10am Divine Liturgy	27 Memorial Day 4:30 Greek School	28	29	30 4:30 Greek School	31	
Indoor & Live-stream						
		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
		+			P	

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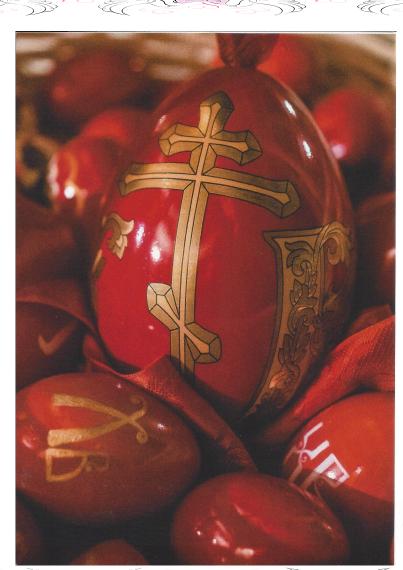
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To generations of our descendants yet unknown to you, who some day in the dim and distant future will read this account of the dramatic history of the Hellenic community, we who have written this account not only on paper, but in the blood, sweat and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



Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!