

HOLY TRINITY + ST. NICHOLAS
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND

METHEXIS



The Monthly Bulletin of Holy Trinity - St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church of Staten Island

February 2025



HOLY TRINITY * ST. NICHOLAS

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF STATEN ISLAND



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Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD

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Building Maintenance: Zisis Bellos

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9:00am - 5:00pm

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Daughters of Penelope – Elena Morakis
Kritiki Filoxenia – Nikos Yasparakis
Pancyprians – Philip Phytides

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Το Σύμβολον της Πίστεως

Πιστεύω εἰς ἕνα Θεόν, Πατέρα Παντοκράτορα, ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ γῆς, ὁρατῶν τε πάντων καὶ ἀορατῶν.

Καὶ εἰς ἕνα Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ,
τὸν ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς γεννηθέντα πρὸ πάντων τῶν αἰώνων·
φῶς ἐκ φωτός, Θεὸν ἀληθινὸν ἐκ Θεοῦ ἀληθινοῦ, γεννηθέντα οὐ ποιηθέντα,
ὁμοούσιον τῷ Πατρί, δι' οὗ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο.

Τὸν δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους καὶ διὰ τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν κατελθόντα ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ σαρκωθέντα
ἐκ Πνεύματος ἁγίου καὶ Μαρίας τῆς Παρθένου καὶ ἐνανθρωπήσαντα.

Σταυρωθέντα τε ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν ἐπὶ Ποντίου Πιλάτου καὶ παθόντα καὶ ταφέντα.

Καὶ ἀναστάντα τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ, κατὰ τὰς Γραφάς.

Καὶ ἀνελθόντα εἰς τοὺς οὐρανοὺς καὶ καθεζόμενον ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Πατρὸς.

Καὶ πάλιν ἐρχόμενον μετὰ δόξης, κρῖναι ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς, οὗ τῆς βασιλείας οὐκ ἔσται τέλος.

Καὶ εἰς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, τὸ Κύριον, τὸ ζωοποιόν, τὸ ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς ἐκπορευόμενον, τὸ σὺν Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ
συμπροσκυνούμενον καὶ συνδοξαζόμενον, τὸ λαλῆσαν διὰ τῶν προφητῶν.

Εἰς μίαν, ἁγίαν, καθολικὴν καὶ ἀποστολικὴν Ἐκκλησίαν.

Ὁμολογῶ ἐν βάπτισμα εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν.

Προσδοκῶ ἀνάστασιν νεκρῶν. Καὶ ζωὴν τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος. Ἀμήν.

The Creed

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages;

Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father,
through Whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together
with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

«Νῦν ἀπολύεις τὸν δοῦλόν σου, Δέσποτα, κατὰ τὸ ρῆμά σου ἐν εἰρήνῃ, ὅτι εἶδον οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου τὸ σωτήριόν σου» (Λουκ. 2,29)

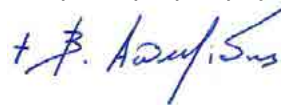
Κάθε χρόνο στὶς 2 Φεβρουαρίου, ἡ Ὁρθόδοξη Ἐκκλησία ἐορτάζει καὶ πανηγυρίζει, τὴν Ὑπαπαντὴ τοῦ Κυρίου. Ἡ μεγάλη αὐτὴ δεσποτικὴ ἐορτὴ, εἶναι ἕνας πολὺ σημαντικὸς σταθμὸς τοῦ ἐορταστικοῦ τῆς κύκλου. Τὸ γεγονός τῆς εἰσόδου τοῦ Χριστοῦ στὸν ἰουδαϊκὸ Ναὸ τῆς Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τῆς ὑποδοχῆς (Ὑπαπαντῆς) Του ἀπὸ τὸν ἅγιο Συμεῶν καὶ τὴν σεβάσμιμα γερόντισσα καὶ προφήτιδα Ἄννα, εἶναι μεγίστης θεολογικῆς σημασίας, καθὼς ἀναγγέλλεται γιὰ πρώτη φορὰ δημόσια ἢ πολυπόθητη γιὰ τὸ ἀνθρώπινο γένος ἔλευση τοῦ Λυτρωτῆ. Τὰ ὑψιστῆς ἀξίας προφητικὰ λόγια ποὺ εἰπώθηκαν ἀπὸ τοὺς προφῆτες Συμεῶν καὶ Ἄννα, φανεροῦν περὶτρανα τὴν θεία καταγωγὴ καὶ τὴ σωτήρια ἀποστολὴ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ στὸν κόσμο.

Μόλις ὁ δίκαιος καὶ εὐλαβὴς Συμεῶν εἶδε τὴν σεμνὴ Μαρία νὰ μπαίνει στὸ Ναό, κρατῶντας τὸν 40 ἡμερῶν υἱὸ τῆς, καὶ ἔλαβε τὴν πληροφορία ἀπὸ τὸ Ἅγιο Πνεῦμα ὅτι Αὐτὸς εἶναι, ποὺ περίμενε σὲ ὅλη του τὴ ζωὴ, γέμισε ἀπὸ ἀπερίγραπτη χαρὰ ἔσπευσε νὰ πάρει τὸν Ἰησοῦ στὴν ἀγκαλιά του καὶ νὰ δοξάσει τὸ Θεὸ λέγοντας: **«Νῦν ἀπολύεις τὸν δοῦλόν σου, Δέσποτα, κατὰ τὸ ρῆμά σοῦ ἐν εἰρήνῃ, ὅτι εἶδον οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου τὸ σωτήριόν σου»** δηλαδή, *«Τώρα, Κύριε, μπορεῖς ν' ἀφήσεις τὸ δοῦλο σου νὰ πεθάνει εἰρηνικά, ὅπως τοῦ ὑποσχέθηκες, γιατί τὰ μάτια μου εἶδαν τὸν Σωτῆρα».*

Ὁ δίκαιος Συμεῶν μὲ τὴν πίστη καὶ τὴν ὑπομονή του, ἀξιώθηκε τῆς μεγάλης αὐτῆς χαρᾶς, νὰ συναντήσῃ τὸ ἴδιο τὸ Χριστό. Γιὰ λίγα λεπτὰ μόνον κράτησε στὴν ἀγκαλιά του τὸν Χριστό καὶ τίποτε περισσότερο. Ἐμεῖς ἀξιωνόμαστε πολὺ μεγαλύτερων εὐεργετημάτων. Μὲ τὴ βάπτισή μας ἐνωθήκαμε μὲ τὸν Χριστό καὶ μὲ τὴ θεία Κοινωνία ἔρχεται ὁλόκληρος ὁ Χριστὸς καὶ κατοικεῖ μέσα μας. Σήμερα ὅμως εἶναι ἀλήθεια ὅτι δεν ζοῦμε αὐτὴ τὴν βαθεῖα χαρὰ καὶ τὴν εὐφροσύνη ποὺ μᾶς προσφέρει ὁ Χριστὸς, καθὼς ἀναζητοῦμε ἄλλου εἶδους ἱκανοποιήσεις μακρῶν Του.

Γι' αὐτὸ καὶ ἡ Ἐκκλησία μὲ ἕναν θαυμάσιο ὕμνο τῆς ἐορτῆς, μᾶς προτρέπει νὰ ἀκολουθήσουμε τὸ παράδειγμα τὸ δικαίου Συμεῶν. **«Λεῦτε καὶ ἡμεῖς, ἄσμασιν ἐνθέοις, Χριστῷ συναντηθῶμεν, καὶ δεξώμεθα αὐτόν, ὅτ' τὸ σωτήριον ὁ Συμεῶν ἐώρακεν».** Μένει μόνον σὲ ἐμᾶς ἀγαπητοί μου ἀδελφοί, νὰ θελήσουμε νὰ συναντηθοῦμε μὲ τὸν Χριστό, νὰ τὸν ὑποδεχθοῦμε ὡς Σωτῆρα καὶ Λυτρωτῆ καὶ νὰ εἶστε βέβαιοι ὅτι ὅταν μὲ καλὸ ἀζιωθοῦμε νὰ ἀνοίξουν τὰ μάτια μας πνευματικά, τότε θὰ ἀντικρῦσουμε τὸν κόσμο μὲ ἀπερίγραπτη αἰσιοδοξία, χαρὰ καὶ ἀγαλλίαση!

Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος



Βασίλειος Γ. Αποστολίδης, Δρ.Μ
Ἱερατικὸς Προϊστάμενος

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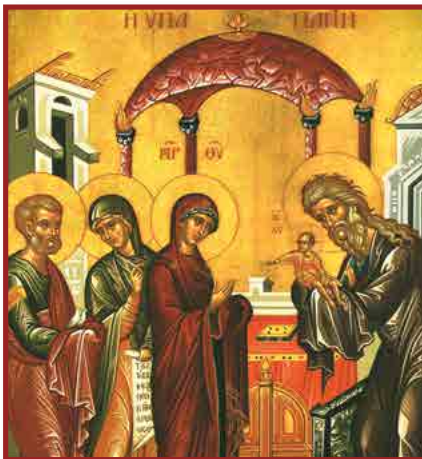
**«Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;
for my eyes have seen Your salvation» (Luk: 2,29)**

The Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of the Lord's Supper every year on February 2. This great Lord's Feast is a significant milestone in her festive cycle. The event of Christ's entry into the Jewish Temple of Jerusalem and His reception (the Presentation) by St. Simeon and the venerable elder and prophetess Anna is of great theological significance, as the coming of the Redeemer, longed for by the human race, is announced publicly for the first time. The prophetic words of supreme value spoken by the prophets Simeon and Anna reveal the divine descent and the saving mission of our Lord Jesus Christ to the world.

As soon as the righteous and pious Simeon saw the blessed Mary enter the temple, holding her 40-day-old son, and received the information from the Holy Spirit that it was He, whom he had been waiting for all his life, he was filled with indescribable joy and hastened to take Jesus in his arms and praise God, saying: **«Now you have released your servant, O Lord, according to your word in peace, for my eyes have seen your salvation».**

By his faith and patience, the righteous Simeon deserved the great joy of meeting Christ himself. For only a few minutes he held Christ in his arms and nothing more. We deserve far greater blessings. By our baptism, we are united to Christ, and by Holy Communion, the whole Christ comes and dwells in us. But today it is true that we do not experience that deep joy and gladness that Christ offers us, as we seek other kinds of satisfaction far from Him.

That is why the Church, with a wonderful hymn of the feast, urges us to follow the example of the righteous Simeon. **«Let us meet Christ, and let us meet him, and let us receive him, as Simeon the savior did».** It only remains for us, my dear brothers, to will to meet Christ, to welcome him as Savior and Redeemer, and be sure that when with goodness we deserve to open our eyes spiritually, then we will face the world with indescribable optimism, joy, and rejoicing!



Protopresbyter

+ Fr. Vasileios G. Apostolidis

Vasileios G. Apostolidis, PhD
Presiding Priest

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday 2 Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday 9 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee (**Triodion begins**)
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Monday 10 Saint Hieromartyr Charalambos
09:00am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 12 **6:00pm** Small Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos – Bible Study

Sunday 16 Sunday of the Prodigal Son
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by His Grace Bishop **NEKTARIOS** of Dioclea

Wednesday 19 **6:00pm** Small Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos – Bible Study

Saturday 22 Saturday of Souls
**08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy and
Memorial Service for the Departed**

Sunday 23 Sunday of the Last Judgment (**Meatfare**)
08:45am Orthros - 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 26 **6:00pm** Small Paraklesis to the Most Holy Theotokos – Bible Study

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΩΝ

Κυριακή 2 Ἡ Ὑπαπαντὴ τοῦ Κυρίου
08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Κυριακή 9 Κυριακὴ τοῦ Τελώνου καὶ Φαρισαίου (Ἀρχὴ Τριωδίου)
08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Δευτέρα 10 Ἁγίου Ἱερομάρτυρος Χαραλάμπους
08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τετάρτη 12 **6:00μ.μ** Μικρὸς Παρακλητικὸς Κανόνας - Μελέτη Ἁγίας Γραφῆς

Κυριακή 16 Κυριακὴ τοῦ Ἀσώτου
08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Στὴ Θεία Λειτουργία θὰ προεξάρχει ὁ Θεοφιλέστατος Ἐπίσκοπος Διοκλείας κ. **ΝΕΚΤΑΡΙΟΣ**

Τετάρτη 19 **6:00μ.μ** Μικρὸς Παρακλητικὸς Κανόνας - Μελέτη Ἁγίας Γραφῆς

Σάββατο 22 Ψυχοσάββατο
**08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία καὶ
Τρισάγιο Κεκοιμημένων**

Κυριακή 23 Κυριακὴ τῆς Κρίσεως (Ἀπόκρως)
08:45 π.μ. Ὅρθρος - 10:00 π.μ. Θεία Λειτουργία

Τετάρτη 26 **6:00μ.μ** Μικρὸς Παρακλητικὸς Κανόνας - Μελέτη Ἁγίας Γραφῆς

ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

1 Σ Τρύφωνος, Περπετούας μάρτ.

2 **Κ** + **Η ΥΠΑΠΑΝΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ**

3 Δ Συμεών Θεοδόχου, Αννης Προφήτιδος

4 Τ Ισιδώρου Πηλουσιώτου, Θεοκτίστου ομολ.

5 Τ Αγάθης μάρτ., Θεοδοσίου

6 Π Φωτίου Πατρ. Κων/λεως, Βουκόλου

7 Π Παρθενίου Λαμψάκου, Λουκά εν Στειρίω

8 Σ + **Θεοδώρου Στρατηλάτου**, Ζαχαρίου προφήτου

9 **Κ** + **ΤΕΛΩΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΦΑΡΙΣΑΙΟΥ.** (Αρχή Τριωδίου), Νικηφόρου μ.

10 Δ + **Χαραλάμπους Ιερομάρτυρος**, Αναστασίου

11 Τ Βλασίου ιερομ., Θεοδώρας αυτοκράτειρας

12 Τ Μελετίου Αντιοχείας, Αντωνίου Κων/πόλεως, Χρήστου νεομ.

13 Π Ακύλα & Πρισκίλλης Αποστόλων

14 Π Αυξεντίου, Μάρωνος οσίου, Κυρίλλου

15 Σ Ονησίμου αποστ., Ευσεβίου, Ανθίμου οσίου

16 **Κ** + **ΤΟΥ ΑΣΩΤΟΥ.** Παμφίλου μάρτ., Φλαβιανού επ. Κων/λεως

17 Δ Θεοδώρου Τήρωνος, Μαρκιανού και Πουλχερίας

18 Τ Λέοντος πάπα Ρώμης, Αγαπητού ομολ., Παρηγορίου μ.

19 Τ + **Φιλοθέης Αθηναίας**, Φιλήμονος

20 Π Λέοντος επ. Κατάνης, Αγάθωνος επ. Ρώμης (**Τσκυνοπέμπτη**)

21 Π Τιμοθέου, Ευσταθίου, Ιωάννου Πατρ. Κων/λεως

22 Σ + **Ψυχοσάββατο.** Των εν τοις Ευγενίου μαρτύρων

23 **Κ** + **ΤΗΣ ΑΠΟΚΡΕΩ.** Πολυκάρπου Σμύρνης

24 Δ Α, Β εύρ. Τ. Κεφαλής Προδρόμου

25 Τ Ταρασίου, Ρηγίνου, Σκοπέλου

26 Τ Φωτεινής μεγ. και ισαποστόλου της Σαμαρείτιδος

27 Π Στεφάνου, Γελασίου, Προκοπίου επ.

28 Π Βασιλείου Ομολογητού, Νέστωρος

ΗΜ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

ΗΧΟΣ - ΕΩΘΙΝΟΝ

2 Εβρ. ζ',7-17 Δκ. β',22-40 βαρύς /-

4 Α' Πέτ. γ',10-22 Μρκ. ιβ',18-27 -

9 Β' Τιμ. γ',10-15 Δκ. ιη',10-14 πλ. δ' / ΙΑ'

10 Β' Τιμ. β',1-10 Ιωάν. ιε',17-27;ιστ',1-2 -

16 Α' Κορ. στ',12-20 Δκ. ιε',11-32 α' / Α'

23 Α' Κορ. η',8-13; θ',1-2 Μθθ. κε',31-46 β' / Β'

24 Β' Κορ. δ',6-15 Μθθ. ια',2-15 -

SAINTS OF THE MONTH

1	S	Tryphon, Perpetua the Martyrs
2	S	+ PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE
3	M	Symeon the God-receiver, Proph. Anna
4	T	Isidore of Pelusium, Theoctistus
5	W	Martyr Agatha, Theodosius
6	T	Photios of Constantinople, Bukolus
7	F	Parthenius of Lampsaca, Luke of Stera
8	S	+ Theodore Stratelates , Zacharias the Prophet
9	S	+ SUN OF PUBLICAN & PHARISEE. (Triodion begins), Nikephoros
10	M	+ Hieromartyr Charalambos , Anastasios
11	T	Hieromartyr Vlasios, Theodora
12	W	Meletios the Antiochian, Antonios of Constantinople
13	T	Aquila and Priscilla the Apostles
14	F	Auxentius, Maron the Righteous, St. Kyrill
15	S	Onesimus the Apostle, Eusebius, Anthimos
16	S	+ SUN OF THE PRODIGAL SON. Pamfilus Martyr, Flavian
17	M	Theodore the Tyro, Markianos and Poulheria
18	T	Leo Pope of Rome, Agapetus, Paregorios
19	W	+ Philothei of Athens , Philemon & Apphia
20	T	Leo Bishop of Catania, Agathon Pope of Rome
21	F	Timothy, Efstathios, John Patr. of Constantinople
22	S	+ Saturday of the Souls. Martyrs of Eugenius Gate
23	S	+ MEATFARE SUN. Polycarp of Smyrna, Gorgonia, Lazarus
24	M	Discovery of the Head of St. John Baptist
25	T	Tarasios, Reginus and Lebadeus
26	W	Photini the Samaritan, Bishop Porfirios
27	T	Stephen, Gelasius, Bishop Procopius
28	F	Basil the Confessor, Nestor

D	EPISTLE	GOSPEL	TONE - EOTHINON
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2	Heb. 7:7-17	Luke 2:22-40	Grave / --
4	I Pet. 3:10-22	Mark 12:18-27	—
9	II Tim. 3:10-15	Luke 18:10-14	pl.4th / 11th
10	II Tim. 2:1-10	John 15:17-27; 16:1-2	—
16	I Cor. 6:12-20	Luke 15:11-32	1st / 1st
23	I Cor. 8:8-13;9:1-2	Matt. 25:31-46	2nd / 2nd
24	II Cor. 4:6-15	Matt. 11:2-15	—

ORTHODOX STUDIES

In the Hope of the Resurrection of Christ

By His Grace Bishop Athenagoras of Nazianzos

In the Greek Orthodox Church, there is an important and long-standing tradition of praying for our departed sisters and brothers. Saturday (except for Lazarus Saturday and Holy Saturday) is the day of the week that is traditionally reserved for those who have fallen asleep because our Lord's own salvific passing took place on Great and Holy Saturday.

While each Saturday provides an opportunity for the remembrance of those who have fallen asleep, there are two main Saturdays every year known as 'Saturday of Souls,' which are designated specifically for this purpose: the Saturday before Meatfare Sunday and the Saturday before Pentecost.

It is important to highlight that many traditions in the Church started locally, and some have been adopted on a larger scale or even more formally by the Church. This is demonstrated by the fact that in some regions or local Churches, the Saturday before the feast of Saint Demetrios (October 26th) is celebrated as a Saturday of Souls, and more local Churches have been adopting this tradition.

Most Churches also observe two additional Saturdays of Souls: one on the Saturday before Cheesefare Sunday (where we commemorate all the holy men and women who excelled in asceticism) and on the Saturday of the first week of Great Lent (where we celebrate the miracle of kollyva by the Great Martyr and Saint Theodore the Tyro).

While these Saturdays are not always formally recognized in the Church calendar as Saturdays of Souls, they nonetheless embody long-standing traditions. And are considered as particular Saturdays to pray for the reposed.

On the Saturday of Souls, Orthodox Christians commemorate those who have fallen asleep, beginning from Adam and Eve, all the way to the most recently departed souls. With reverence, we ask God to forgive all their transgressions and to grant them rest "in a place of green pasture." In addition to expressly commemorating the names of our loved ones, our prayers include more generally all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of the Resurrection of Christ.

May their memories be eternal!

SATURDAY OF SOULS - ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ



The **Saturday of the Souls** will be **February 22nd**. Orthros will be at 09:00 am followed by Divine Liturgy. This day is devoted to prayer for departed relatives and others among the faithful. Please leave your names at the Pangari to be read in Liturgy or bring them to the office during the week.

Το **Ψυχοσάββατο** είναι στις **22 Φεβρουαρίου**. Ο Όρθρος θα γίνει στις 09:00 το πρωί και θα ακολουθήσει η Θεία Λειτουργία. Η ημέρα αυτή είναι αφιερωμένη στους κεκοιμημένους αδελφούς μας. Παρακαλούμε να αφήσετε τα ονόματά σας στο Παγκάρι για να διαβαστούν στη Θεία Λειτουργία ή στο Γραφείο κατά τη διάρκεια της εβδομάδας.

GODPARENTS SUNDAY

On **Sunday, February 9th**, all Godparents and Godchildren are invited to participate in the Divine Liturgy for Godparent Sunday. Please join us for the special opportunity to receive Holy Communion with your Godchild, to have fellowship with one another, and to strengthen your spiritual bond.

Την **Κυριακή 9 Φεβρουαρίου** καλούνται όλοι οι Ανάδοχοι (Νονοί) και τα Βαπτιστήρια τους να συμμετάσχουν στη Θεία Λειτουργία για την Κυριακή των Αναδόχων (Νονών).

Παρακαλούμε να συμμετέχετε στην ιδιαίτερη αυτή ευκαιρία ώστε να λάβετε τη Θεία Ευχαριστία με το Νονό-Νονά σας, να έχετε επικοινωνία μεταξύ σας και να ενισχύσετε τον πνευματικό σας δεσμό.

LESSONS OF LIFE

THE JAR AND THE LESSON

A young couple lived next door to an elderly couple, and over time, the two families became very good friends. Every Sunday, the young couple would visit the elderly couple at their home. They would spend their time with them drinking coffee, laughing and chatting.

During these visits, the young couple noticed a small, ongoing habit: the elderly woman would always give the coffee jar to her husband to open. The young man, wanting to help her, decided to make her life easier.

He bought a useful tool that opened jars easily and showed her how to use it. He was sure that she would appreciate the convenience, saving her the hassle of always asking for help.

However, the following Sunday, the young couple noticed the same habit. Again, the elderly woman gave the coffee jar to her husband to open. Confused, they waited for a private moment and politely asked her why she didn't use the tool.

Her answer surprised them. With a gentle smile, she said, "Oh, I can open it myself, even without the tool. But I let him do it because it makes him feel strong, like he's still the man of the house. It reminds him that I need him, like I always have. We don't have many years left together, and maintaining that sense of companionship is much more important than the jar."

The young couple fell silent, deeply moved by her words. In this simple act, they saw the quiet wisdom and undying love that had held the couple together for their entire lives.

Moral of the story: Our elderly loved ones teach us that true strength lies not in what we can do alone, but in how we cultivate and maintain our relationships with others. While they may not be as giving as they once were, their presence, their guidance, and their small acts of connection are invaluable. Like a tree that may no longer bear fruit but still offers comforting shade, their value is immeasurable. Their care is not a burden..

..it is a profound blessing.



PARISH COUNCIL

Hello All!

I would like to wish everyone a Happy February!

We only have four more weeks of winter remaining! Once March 1st hits is a downhill run to Spring. Yay!

The Executive Board Members for 2025 are:

Andrew Economos (**President**), Spyro Lazaretos (**1st Vice President**), Thomas Vlastakis (**2nd Vice President**), Petros Gregoriou (**Treasurer**), Spiro Antypas (**Assistant Treasurer**), Florendia Dragazis, (**Esq., Secretary**)

Thank you all who participated in our First Annual Greek night, the music was great, the food delicious and the Parea Great!

We are preparing for this year's festival and one of the most important aspects of making it a safe event is to have on sight qualified fire guards. We are required to have so many each day and this is where we need your help. This involves a brief study guide and a certification test given by FDNY and is good for 3 years. If you are interested, please contact Stephen Stark at starkman95@aol.com, or 718-614-9391.

The Parish Council has voted to increase the price of the Red seven day votive candle from \$7 to \$10.

The General Assembly date is scheduled for March 16th, 2025.

As always I look forward to seeing everyone at Coffee hour.

Thank You
Andrew Economos
Parish Council President



LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Dear Philoptochos Sisters and fellow parishioners,

In March 1944, Archbishop Athenagoras recommended that the Philoptochos Society purchase the 250-acre Rupert Estate in Garrison, New York, located on the shores of the Hudson River, directly across from the United States Military Academy at West Point. With that purchase, and with the establishment of the Academy of St. Basil, Philoptochos remains a major financial supporter of the Academy through our ministry commitments held in January. Our sincerest gratitude and appreciation for all those who contributed to our Annual Tea Party and to our philanthropic Vasilopita Sunday. Your donations exceeded expectations with your generosity.



January 4th was our Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen. The meal consisted of roasted chicken, butternut squash, mashed potatoes, green salad, and pineapple for dessert. All in all, 150 people were served with takeout boxes given out. Also, a full tray of chicken was sent to Project Hospitality. We cannot thank our Soup Kitchen volunteers enough for all they do - Harry Monioudis, Pete Christofilakes, Renie Theodorakis, Chris Moscoso, and Chris Charitis. A special thank you to Renie and Mike Theodorakis during our giving season, as they went and gave out gifts to the children who attended the soup kitchen. We are so fortunate to have such generous and giving parishioners in our community.

The following are our events for the month of February:

2/1 Cook for Trinity Lutheran Soup Kitchen

2/2 Philoptochos Monthly Tray

Our monthly trays go towards our National Philoptochos Ministry Commitments/Programs. This month monies will go towards:

1) Autism Assistance Fund – The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has called Autism a “national public health crisis” more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined. This fund provides assistance and support to persons within the Autism spectrum and promotes education to heighten Autism awareness.

2) Saint Photios Shrine Fund – In 1965, the Archdiocese purchased the Avero House in historic Saint Augustine, Florida, to commemorate the arrival of the first Greek settlers in the New World in 1768. Philoptochos continues its commitment to provide financial assistance towards the preservation of the National Shrine.

****2/11 Monthly Meeting 6:30 Ref/7:00 Meeting & Valentine's Day Project**

Join us as we remember those who cannot be with us during liturgy every Sunday, as we write a card expressing how much they are missed amongst us. Please make it a point to come to our meeting and help in this very worthy gesture and to fulfil our 2nd half of our year full of obligations and commitments. We need your support to be successful.

Every woman in our parish eighteen or older is entitled to become a Philoptochos member. At present we have 66 members. Philoptochos is the second largest women's philanthropic organization in the United States in terms of money donated to charitable causes. Please come join us, as we, Philoptochos "friend of the poor" help those in need.**

3/11 Our next Monthly meeting 6:30 refresh/7:00 meeting

Mark your calendars: **March 29th is Philoptochos Walk-A-Thon** at South Beach Boardwalk starting at 10:00 am and meeting at the Fishing Pier. All interested please contact Dee Sidiropoulos (917) 669-0586. If you are unable to walk, we do have our virtual Walk-A-Thon, which you can purchase paper sneakers to donate.

Conveying the blessings and love of Fr. Vasileios,



Faithfully,
Dee Sidiropoulos, President

YOUTH MINISTRY



JOY

Every first and third Friday of the month, 6-7pm. All 3rd to 5th graders are invited to join us as we build friendships through the activities that strengthen our Greek Orthodox identity. In January, JOY kids cut the Vasilopita and played a word and picture association game for the New Year's and Theophania holidays, as well as created a Corinthians 13 Agapi craft. Parents, please make every effort to attend the meeting on February 7 at 6pm, to meet with Dino from the Archdiocese to learn about Camp Saint Paul.



JUNIOR GOYA

Every first and third Friday of the month, 7-8 pm. All 6th to 8th graders are invited to join our group that trains young adults to lead their own meetings as they plan activities that strengthen their Greek Orthodox identity. In January, the kids cut the Vasilopita and ran a meeting using the Roberts Rule of Order to plan their Spring trip to Rock N Air, in March. Parents, please make every effort to attend the meeting on February 7 at 6pm, to meet with Dino from the Archdiocese to learn about Camp Saint Paul.



GOYA

This past January, our GOYA had the honor of continuing our beloved tradition with the annual Vasilopita cutting. It was a wonderful gathering that brought our community together to celebrate and bless the new year.

February promises to be an exciting and busy month for our youth! Here's what's coming up:

****Super Bowl Fundraiser and Bake Sale**:** Join us on Sunday, February 9th, to support our GOYA while enjoying some delicious treats during our Valentine's Bake Sale. During the bake sale, the GOYA will also be selling Super Bowl Boxes.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our GOYA and their efforts to make a difference in our community.

Our GOYA meets every Friday at 7:30 PM. Come join us and bring a friend—everyone is welcome!



Camp Saint Paul Parent Informational Meeting: On Friday, February 7th, at 6:00 pm, we invite all parents to learn more about Camp Saint Paul. We encourage everyone to attend and explore this enriching experience for our youth.



CAMP SAINT PAUL 2025

Week 1
June 22-28

Week 2
June 29-July 5

Week 3
July 6-12

Week 4
July 13-19

Week 5
July 20-26



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

<p>2</p> <p>Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p></p>
<p>9</p> <p>Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Philoptochos Meeting 6:30 PM</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Celebrated by His Grace Bishop NEKTARIOS of Dioclea Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study</p> <p></p>
<p>23</p> <p>Orthos 8:45 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM Hellenic Dancers 12:00 PM</p>	<p>24</p> <p></p>	<p>25</p> <p></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Paraklesis to The Theotokos 6:00 PM Bible Study</p> <p></p>

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

		1
6	7	8
13	14	15
20	21	22
27	28	



Strict Fast: Refrain from meat, fish, oil, wine, dairy, and eggs.
Αυστηρή νηστεία: Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, το λάδι, το κρασί, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Red)



Wine & Oil: Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs.
Κρασί & Λάδι: Το κρασί και το λάδι επιτρέπονται. Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα ψάρια, τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα και τα αυγά. (Purple)



Fish, oil and wine are allowed: Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs. **Τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί επιτρέπονται:** Αποφύγετε το κρέας, τα αυγά και τα γαλακτοκομικά προϊόντα. (Blue)



Dairy Allowed: Dairy, fish, eggs, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat.
Επιτρέπονται γαλακτοκομικά: Επιτρέπονται τα γαλακτοκομικά, τα αυγά, τα ψάρια, το λάδι και το κρασί. Αποφύγετε το κρέας. (Orange)

No Symbol Fast Free: All Foods Allowed.
Χωρίς σύμβολο Γρήγορα δωρεάν: Επιτρέπονται όλα τα τρόφιμα (Yellow)

HELLENIC DANCERS

Calling all youth! Please join us every Sunday, after church for dance practice. Learn traditional folk dances from all parts of Greece.

Little Dancers – Kindergarten to 3rd Grade,
Sunday Practice 12 pm – 12:30 pm

Junior Hellenic Dancers – 4th – 8th Grade
Sunday Practice 12 pm – 12:30 pm

Hellenic Dancers – High School,
Sunday Practice 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Adult Hellenic Dancing – Last Friday of
each month at 8 pm – For February we will meet
on Friday, Feb 28th.



Co-Directors
Stella Viris, Kevi Langis

PTO



PTO Board Members and Volunteers Needed!

The PTO is accepting nominees for board positions. We also need volunteers for the Event Committee to help plan and run PTO events.

To nominate someone or volunteer, please contact us at:

pto@htsngoc.org

May God bless you and your families as we work together for our church community!

- The Holy Trinity St Nicholas PTO Board

ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT OLYMPICS

It's that time of the year again! **Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan District Olympics!**

Friday May 23rd to Sunday May 25th

at the Suffolk County Community College in Brentwood, New York.

Parents will need to upload the child's Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate when registration opens.

Volunteer coaches will be needed for the events.

JOY (7 - 12) Events: track (50m dash, 4x50m shuttle, 4x100m shuttle), softball throw, standing long jump, basketball (free throws, around the world, 3v3), board games (chess, checkers, backgammon, nok-hockey, table tennis), swimming (25m freestyle, 4x25m relay), kickball, soccer

GOYA (13-18) Events: swim (50m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 100m relay), soccer, softball, volleyball, track (50m dash, 200m dash, 400m dash, 800m run, 1500m run, 4x200m relay, 5k), field (shot put, softball throw, long jump, high jump), board games (chess, checkers, table tennis, backgammon), basketball (free throws, 3v3)



For more information, please visit the website at www.goado.com

Please reach out to me if you would like to volunteer via email at Olympics@htsngoc.org

Anneta Dragazis-Colon
Chairperson





SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School program provides a nurturing and faith-filled environment where children, from 3 years old to 8th grade, can grow in their understanding and love of God. Through engaging in lessons, activities, and fellowship, we guide our students to live out their faith and build a strong spiritual foundation. If you are interested in registering your child for our Sunday School program, please contact the main office for more information.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Godparents Day Celebration: Sunday, **February 9th** – Join us as we honor the special role godparents play in our spiritual journeys

Camp Saint Paul Parent Informational Meeting: Friday, **February 7th** at 6 PM – Learn more about this wonderful camp opportunity. All are welcome to attend!

There will be **no Sunday School** on Sunday **February 16th** due to Mid-Winter Recess.

A Thought for Our Children:

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” – Matthew 19:14

We look forward to seeing you and your children as we continue to grow in faith together!

GREEK SCHOOL

Ένα μεγάλο ευχαριστώ στις μαθήτριες του Ελληνικού απογευματινού σχολείου μας που έλαβαν μέρος στην τιμητική γιορτή των Τριών Ιεραρχών.

Γιορτάσαμε τρεις ψυχές υπέροχα άγιες, τρεις καρδιές ανδρείες, γενναίες, τρεις διάνοιες σπινθηροβόλες: “Μέγας Βασίλειος, Γρηγόριος ο Θεολόγος, Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος.

Η γιορτή των Τριών Ιεραρχών είναι γιορτή τόσο Σχολική όσο και Χριστιανική.

Σχολική γιατί ήταν άνθρωποι μορφωμένοι, σοφοί, δάσκαλοι, φημισμένοι ρήτορες και συγγραφείς. Πρόσφεραν πολλά στα γράμματα διαθέτοντας ολόκληρη την περιουσία τους με μοναδικό τους μέλημα να απαλύνουν τον ανθρώπινο πόνο.

Χριστιανική γιατί και οι τρεις ήταν ευσεβείς Ιεράρχες, επιφανείς Θεολόγοι, με κοινωνική προσφορά και τεράστιο φιλανθρωπικό έργο διαθέτοντας την ζωή τους στην πίστη τους για τον Χριστό.

Με την δική τους επιμέλεια, κόπο και προσπάθεια έγιναν οι πρωταθλητές της ευσεβείας της αρετής, της αγιότητας αλλά και των γραμμάτων και της σοφίας. Αξίζει να τους μιμηθούμε.

Η δασκάλα
Σταυρούλα Χαμπάκη

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

by Presbytera Elisavet

Ingredients:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 6 eggs
- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- 2 cup semolina
- 2 tea spoon baking powder



Revani

Sweet semolina cake
with coconut

Preparation:

- Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F) set to fan
- In a mixer's bowl add the butter or margarine, the sugar, the eggs and beat for 10-15 minutes
- In another bowl combine the dry ingredients: the flour, semolina, coconut and baking powder.
- Slowly add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredient in the mixer on low speed for 10 minutes.
- Transfer batter to a 9×3 baking pan that has been greased with butter.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes
- When ready, remove from oven and set aside to cool
- Begin to prepare simple syrup.

Tips: Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream

*According to legend,
it was named after the poet Revani.*

*Myth or truth, but its taste is reminiscent of a poem,
as we characterize something exceptional.*

Revani has been directly associated with the city of Veria since 1886.

Simple Syrup

Ingredients:

- 4 cups water
- 4 cups sugar
- 2 slices of lemon

Preparation:

- Place medium saucepan over high heat
- Add water, sugar and slices of lemon
- When syrup mixture begins to boil, lower the heat
- Boil for 10 minutes
- Cut cake into diamond shaped pieces
- Remove saucepan from heat
- With ladle begin slowly pouring the syrup over the cake

STEWARDSHIP LIST 2025



Rev. Protopresbyter Vasileios G.

Apostolidis

John and Emily Antonopoulos

Panagiota Arfanis

Emanuel and Anna Belibasakis

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Anneta Colon

Demetrius and Angela Dermanis

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Socrates and Katerina Grammenos

Petros and Eirini Gregoriou

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Philip and Penny Phytides

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Jim and Dee Sidiropoulos

Carol Spithogiannis

Stephen Stark Sr.

Georgiana Telegadis delBusto

Maria Thomas

Irene Tragares

George Veres

Diane Vernados

Evangelos and Maria Xenakis

In every Divine Liturgy,
when our gifts of bread and wine
are blessed and lifted up
in offering to God our Father,
we hear the words,
*«Your own from Your own
we offer to You».*

We acknowledge that everything we have
and offer to God first comes from Him.

Stewardship is a spiritual response
all that He has given us.

With much prayer, we kindly invite you
to become a Steward of our Parish
or renew your commitment.

Thank you for your consideration
and continued support!



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from Your own
we offer to You



STEWARDSHIP 2025





ALTAR BOYS

Altar Boys (Acolytes) have the responsibility to assist clergy in celebrating services. The Holy Altar is the most sacred part of the Church and serving as an Altar Boy is a great honor and privilege. If you would like to serve as an Altar Boy, please contact Fr. Vasileios.

We are very proud of the Altar Boys of our Church!

Anthony Iemmiti, *Captain*
Panagiotis N. Roussis, *Co-Captain*
Constantine Colon
Alex Diamantopoulos
Ian Fotiou
Carter Francese
Christ Guirguis
Anastasios Krokos

Dennis Lyons
Matthew Lyons
Michael Noto
Michael Roussis
Panagiotis G. Roussis
Michael Sfougataki
Aleko Soukas



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us every Sunday after Divine Liturgy



February 2th GOYA, Jr GOYA & JOY
February 9th AHEPA
February 16th KRITIKI FILOXENIA
February 23th PANCYPRIANS

Please note... all Fasting days are in **bold**

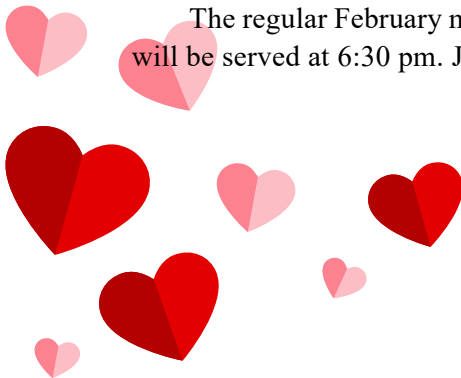
Σημείωση... Οι ημέρες Νηστείας είναι με έντονο χρώμα

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

The annual Valentine's Day dinner will be held on **Sunday February 2, 2025**. The location is at Angelina's Ristorante, Ellis street, Staten Island NY.

The regular February meeting is Thursday February 27, 7 pm. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm. Join us for Valentine's treats and games.

Diana Kolaitis
Corresponding Secretary



AHEPA

AHEPA is excited to announce our **first Annual Tavli Tournament!**

It will be held at the Katsoris Center on **February 22**, starting at **7 pm**.

The admission fee for all players is **\$30.00** to participate. Registration to play can be done up to the day of the tournament. You can also call or leave a message on my cell number at **347-247-4676**

There will be a single elimination phase where the winner of each pairing must win 3 out of 5 games. Prizes will be given to the **first, second** and **third** place finishers. Admission is free to anyone who wishes to watch the play. They are welcome to cheer on their favorite player.

We hope to have a good turnout so we can continue this tournament every year. Refreshments will be served.

Socrates Dapias – President, Harry Monioudis – V. Pres.
George Roussis – Secretary, Petros Gregoriou - Treasurer



KRITIKI FILOXENIA



The syllogo Kritiki filoxenia invites you to attend our **annual dinner dance on March 1 at 7:30pm**, with performance by all four of our dance groups and music by the famous **Mixalis Tzouganakis**. The dance will be at the **Katsoris Community center 1641 Richmond Ave.**

Thank you,
Nikolaos Yasparakis
President

PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION



Pancyprian Association Aphrodite of Staten Island

Congratulations to our member, Penny Phytides, for receiving the blessing of the coin at the cutting of our Vasilopita! We are happy to announce that the Children's Oncology Unit in Cyprus has informed us that they received the package with the Children's Vests! Thank you again to all who donated.

Our next **Frappe night** is Friday, **February 21st at 7:30pm**, everyone is welcome to join!

Mark your calendars! **Pancyprian Annual BBQ, SATURDAY, MAY 31st!**

Details to follow



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RBLAW

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Our mission is to reach out to all members of the Community by providing useful information
about the ecclesiastical, spiritual, and cultural life of the entire Parish.

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