ENTRANCE HYMNS

**Apolytikion for the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos – En ti Ghennisi (“In giving birth”)**
In giving birth you retained your virginity, and in dormition you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated unto life, being the Mother of Life. And thus by virtue of your intercessions you deliver our souls from death.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion - Ote Katilthes (“When Thou Descended”)**
When You descended to the Realm of Death, You, the Life that is deathless, then did You Hades lifeless rend with the Lightning of Divineness. And when You did raise up those dead from deep within the earth. Then did all the powers that are in the Heavens above cry out, O Lifegiving Christ, You Who are our God, Glory to You.

**Apolytikion for the Holy Napkin – Tin achrandon Ikona (“The sacred veil”)**
We venerate Your immaculate icon, O good Lord, and entreat You to forgive our offences, O Christ our God. By Your own choice you were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh, to deliver us, whom You created, from our slavery to the foe. Therefore we cry to You with gratitude: You have filled all things with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world.

**Apolytikion of St. Sophia/Ss. Faith, Hope & Agape**

**Greek**
Ος ελαία κατά καρπος ανεβλάστησας, ἐν ταῖς ανλαίς του Κυρίου, Σοφία μάρτυς σεμνή, καί προσήγαγες Χριστώ καρπόν η δύτατον, τούς τής νηδύος σου βλαστούς, δί α γώνων εύαγων, Αγάπην τε καί 'Ελπίδα σύν τη θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθων δυσώπει υπέρ πάνω της μνήμης.

**English Phonetics for Greek**
Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyriou Sophia martys semni, ke prosgagas Christo karpon idytaton, tus tis ridyos su vlastus, di’ agonon evagon, Agapin te ke Eipida, syn ti theofroni Pisti, meli’ on dysopi yper pandon imon.

**English**
As an olive tree laden with fruit you sprouted forth, in the courtyards of the Lord, Sophia martyr dignified, and you brought to Christ a fruit most sweet, Namely your womb’s own sprouts, brought up by instructive deeds: your daughters Faith and Hope, along with God-minded Love; together intercede with God for us all.

**Kontakion for the Feast – Tin en presvies (“Unsleeping in intercession”)**
The Theotokos, unsleeping in intercession and the immovable hope of protection, could not be retained by any tomb or death. For being Life’s own Mother, she was transferred to life by Him who dwelt in the ever-virgin womb.
Stewardship Update
August 16, 2015

While many of us are still on vacation or enjoying the summer weather at home, it is hard to believe that summer is quickly coming to an end! Many new families and individuals have visited our parish this summer. We continue to hear the wonderful compliments about our beautiful church, our iconography and the community as a whole.

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is our way of thanking God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. To be considered good stewards of our parish and the faith, we must give back in gratitude to Him by giving of our time, talent and treasure. Our Parish and His Ministries need all three from each of us! What are you personally doing to show your gratitude to Him for your own blessings? Are you truly giving back to Him to support His ministries here on Earth?

SAVE THE DATE!
St. Sophia’s Feast Day Dinner Dance is on Saturday, October 10, 2015
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!

Although summer is here and many of us go away, please keep in mind that our bills do not! The bank, PECO and all our other bills continue to come in during the summer. So please remember to continue your financial stewardship payments during the summer months! We are still looking for a number of our Stewards to pledge for 2015. You will be receiving a reminder notice shortly if you have not pledged for 2015. If you have pledged, you will be receiving an updated financial statement.

As a busy parish, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved by giving of our time and talents to support His work. Actively participating is not only spiritually rewarding—it can be really fun too! God bless you for your support of His work and our parish!

REMEMBER: The fall festival is coming. We really need EVERYONE’S HELP!!

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014 (Year End)</th>
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EPISODE READING
The Reading is from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians 9:2-12

The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

BRETHREN, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God cares? Or do His ministers live off oxen?

Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by an unmarried helper, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Paul? Do I now claim upon you, do I not rather speak as a man of God—just as we are speaking to you—when I say, “May it not be that there is an equivocation on your part, as if there is a law that I should speak as a law? I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain.” Is it for oxen that God cares? Or do His ministers live off oxen? Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Paul? 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The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailors, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

**EVANGELION**

Κατά Ματθαίον 18:23-35

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ὑμιῶν ή ἱδρυμα τῶν ὀπώρων αὐτοῦ, ἀρέσιμον δὲ αὐτοῦ συναίρει προσνέχθη ἄυτῷ ἐς ϒφείλής μυρίων ταλαντών. μὴ ἔχοντος δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀποδόθηκεν ἐκέλευσιν αὐτῶν ὁ Κύριος πραβήσει καὶ τὴν γυαλία αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸ τέκνα καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἐίχε, καὶ ἀποδόθηκεν. πεσὼν οὖν ὁ δοῦλος προσεκύνη αὐτῷ λέγων· κύριε, μακροθύμησον ἐπ’ ἐμοί καὶ πάντα σοι ἀποδόσω. σπλαγχνιζες δὲ ὁ Κύριος τοῦ δούλου ἐκείνου ἀπέλυσεν αὐτὸν καὶ τὸ δάνειον ἀφήκην αὐτῷ. ἐξελθὼν δὲ ὁ δοῦλος ἐκείνος εὗρεν ἕνα τῶν συνδόκων αὐτοῦ, ὃς ὤφειλεν αὐτῷ ἐκατὸν δηναρία, καὶ πρατήσας αὐτῶν ἑπτανείς λέγων· ἀπόδοσι μοι ἐὰν τῇ ὑπὲρ ἐμείς πεσόν ἐν τῷ σύνδοκι αὐτοῦ εἰς τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ παρεκάλει αὐτῶν λέγων· μακροθύμησον ἐπ’ ἐμοί καὶ ἀποδόσω σοι. ὃ δὲ σὺς ἔχεις, ἀλλὰ ἀπελθὼν ἑβαλεν αὐτῶν εἰς φυλακή ἐως ὅταν ἀποδόῃ τὸ ὁφελέμονον. ἴδιόντες δὲ οἱ σύνδοκι αὐτῶν τὰ γενόμενα ἐλυπήθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐλθόντες διεσάφησαν τῷ κυρίῳ ἑαυτῶν πάντα τὰ γενόμενα. τότε προσκαλεσάμενος αὐτῶν ὁ Κύριος αὐτοῦ λέγει αὐτῷ· δοῦλε πονηρέ, πέθαιν ὁ φειλή ἐκείνης αφήκα σοι, ἐπεὶ παρεκάλεσας με. οὐκ ἔδει καὶ σε ἐλέησαι τὸν συνδόκον σου, ὡς καὶ ἐγὼ σε ἡλέησα. καὶ ὃς ὁ φειλῆς ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ παρέδωκεν αὐτῶν τῷ βασιλεὺς ἐως ὅταν ἀποδόῃ πᾶν τὸ ὁφελέμονον αὐτῶν. Οὕτω καὶ ὁ πατὴρ μου ὁ ἐπουρανίος ποιήσαι υἱῷ, ἐὰν μὴ ἄφητε ἐκατός τοῦ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν καρδίῶν υἱῶν τὰ παραπτώματα αὐτῶν.

**GOSPEL READING**

The Reading is from the Gospel of Matthew 18:23-35

We are excited to announce that Dr. George Kordis, our iconographer, will be here at St. Sophia’s in early September for some additional iconography. We have received sponsorships for the Holy Ascension of Christ icon, which will be painted over the altar area. We appreciate the support of our many donors, including the most recent anonymous donor in support of this new beautification project.

In addition, Dr. Kordis and his team of world renowned artists will be painting in the Narthex, including the Donor Wall. They will also be vanishing and sealing all of the icons in the iconostasion and lower walls to protect them from damage. Please be sure to welcome Dr. Kordis and everyone when you see them around the church!

Many sponsorships are still available for both iconography and the furnishings. Please check out the exhibit next door in the Fr. John A. Limberakis Cultural Center.

A draft of the names that will be listed on the donor plaque has been posted in the Fr. John A. Limberakis Cultural Center. Please double check your name and listing to make sure it is accurate. If you have questions or concerns, please see any Parish Council member.

**St. Sophia Church Mortgage**

Mortgage balance as of 7/28/15 is $1,345,621.55. We recently negotiated a lower rate with QNB Bank, which will lower our payment by $1,000/month.
GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Movie Tavern Tickets: This is the fabulous movie theater in town that offers first run movies as well as an “in-house” dining experience. The Ladies’ Philoptochos is selling discounted MOVIE TAVERN movie tickets for $8.50 each. They can be used on any day and even for new releases. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact Maria or Kathy Tsipras. For show times visit www.movietavern.com.

Parish E-mail List: If you have not yet given us your e-mail address (or if it has changed recently) please let the Parish office know so that we can update our files. You may either call the Parish office with your information or you may e-mail it directly to stsophia@verizon.net.

Pastoral Visits - A Request to All Parishioners: If you desire a pastoral visit in case of a hospitalization or for someone who is homebound, in a nursing facility, or in prison, please have an immediate family member notify the Parish office at 610-650-8960 so that a visit can be arranged.

In Case of Emergency: If you are having an extreme medical emergency and are in need of an Orthodox priest, please call the Parish office at 610-650-8960.

Any information or announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be received by 3pm on the Wednesday prior to publication. Please e-mail information to stsophia@verizon.net. Thank you.  Elaine Piligian

YIAYIA’S ATTIC
Planning to do some household clean up this summer? Need to make room in the garage or basement?
Please bring your "treasures" anytime during the summer to the church balcony for sale during the Fall Grecian Festival

Unsold items will be donated to a local thrift store
For Questions or Volunteer Sign Up:
Contact Kathy Tsipras (610) 539-5413
Note: We cannot accept donations of clothing, mattresses, pillows, any type of quilted items, stuffed animals and food products.

A note from Fr. Peter…
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During the first 14 days of August we fasted for the preparation for the celebration of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Fasting is one of the many spiritual tools that the church gives us as a way to bring us closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It also gives us the opportunity to remember those whom Christ calls the "least of these my brothers." (Matt 25:40).

I humbly ask all you to help our parish help those in need during this time by bringing in non-perishable food items to help feed the hungry of our communities! The food drive will continue for the next couple of weeks. Please keep this in mind as you prepare your shopping lists. The need is great.

In Christ,
+Fr. Peter

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Aug. 23rd</td>
<td>Greek Dance practice after the Divine Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Aug. 29th</td>
<td>10:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Beheading of St. John the Baptist – THIS IS A STRICT FAST DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun., Aug. 30th</td>
<td>Greek Dance practice after the Divine Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Sept. 1st</td>
<td>10:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept. 7th</td>
<td>Labor Day – The Parish Office is Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., Sept. 8th</td>
<td>10:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Nativity of the Theotokos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10-13</td>
<td>Thursday through Sunday – Fall Grecian Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Sept. 14th</td>
<td>10:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Exaltation of the Holy Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Sept. 16th</td>
<td>6:30 pm – Great Vespers for Feast of St. Sophia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Sept. 17th</td>
<td>10:00 am – Divine Liturgy – Feast of St. Sophia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun., Sept. 20th</td>
<td>WINTER HOURS RESUME – 8:45 am Orthodox; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy</td>
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Sunday school begins
Luncheon for Fr. Peter celebrating 10 years since his Ordination to the Priesthood.

Mon., Sept. 21st | Greek school begins this week                                       |
| Sat., Oct. 10th  | SAVE THE DATE! - St. Sophia Feast Day Dinner Dance                  |
| Wed., Oct. 14th  | Red Cross Blood Drive – 2pm to 7pm                                  |
| Sat., Oct 24th   | Annual PTO Fall Costume Party                                      |

In Case of Emergency:
If you are having an extreme medical emergency and are in need of an Orthodox priest, please call the Parish office at 610-650-8960.
On Sundays during summer hours, Orthros now begins at 8:15 am.
The Divine Liturgy begins at 9:30 am.

Coffee Hour: Thank you to Mrs. Despina Notaras and Mrs. Effie Samios for sponsoring this morning’s coffee hour. Xronia Polla, Despina!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon., Aug. 17th</th>
<th>6:00 pm – Festival Meeting</th>
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<td>Tues., Aug. 18th</td>
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<td>Friday, Aug. 21st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Aug. 22nd</td>
<td>2:00 pm – 5:00 pm - Yiayia’s Attic Setup – see below</td>
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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Festival Meetings: Organizational meetings for our fall festival will take place weekly on Mondays at 6:00 pm; the next meeting is tomorrow, August 17th. All those interested in participating are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please call John Papadimitriou (484-620-1695) or the Parish office (610-650-8960).

Help Needed for Yiayia’s Attic Setup: On Saturday, August 22nd from 2-5pm, the Philoptochos needs volunteers of all ages to help with Yiayia’s Attic setup. We will be pulling the items out of the donated boxes and placing them in different areas in the balcony. Even if you can only stop by for one hour…please do. The more hands, the better! Call Kathy Tsipras 610-539-5413 if you have any questions.

Sunday School Registration Has Begun: Sunday school begins on September 20th. Registration forms for Sunday school are available at the Pangari and on our Parish website – www.saintsophiachurch.org. Greek School Registration: The Greek school 2015-16 registration form is available at the Pangari and on our website. For questions regarding the program, please contact Erietta Fotiadis at 484-716-6059 or eriettafotiadis@gmail.com AFTER September 10th. For questions regarding registration, please contact Roula Matsiras at 484-744-9374 or matsiras@hotmail.com, or Christine Bailey at 610-256-1087 or christinebailey@outlook.com. Please complete form and return along with your payment to St. Sophia Parish Office by August 30, 2015.

Coffee Hour Sponsors Needed!: There are several opportunities to be a coffee sponsor in the next several weeks. If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, please put your name on the list at the back of the hall or contact Elaine in the Parish office.

Yiayia’s Attic - Just a reminder that our Fall Festival is around the corner. So, start cleaning out that garage, basement, spare room or even that junk drawer today. NO clothing, mattresses, pillows, any type of quilted items, stuffed animals or food products will be accepted. Any items unsold will be donated to a local thrift store. All proceeds benefit the St. Nicholas National Shrine. Any items brought in must be placed directly in the balcony. Volunteers will be needed during the festival hours to sell these treasures. Please call Maria or Kathy Tsipras (610) 539-5413 if you have any questions or to volunteer.

Community Food Drive: During the month of August we will be having a food drive to help feed the hungry of our communities. Please keep this in mind when you go food shopping and bring non-perishable food items to the Cultural Center.

Senior Citizen Ministry: St. Sophia’s Senior Parea is open to all senior citizens of the community. The Senior Parea will be taking a break for the months of July and August and will resume weekly meetings in September. Meetings are held each Thursday in the Cultural Center from 10am to 12 noon.

Empties4Cash: We are always accepting empty inkjet printer cartridges for recycling. Undamaged ORIGINAL cartridges with a print head quality for payment – includes most Hewlett Packard, Lexmark, Canon, Dell, Sharp and Epson cartridges. The drop off box is located in the lobby of the Cultural Center. Help us recycle trash for cash!

SHOP-RITE or GIANT shoppers: We have enrolled in their Gift Card Program and the gift cards are on sale during coffee hour. If you are interested, please see Alexis Witt.

Register Tapes: Don’t forget to save your Shop-Rite register tapes. We can only use receipts from any of the ten Brown’s stores located in: Bensalem PA, East Norriton, PA, Fairless Hills PA, Cheltenham, PA and in Philadelphia, PA, on Island Ave., Oregon Ave., 52nd & Parkside, Haverford Ave., and Ridge Ave. in the Roxborough section. They also have one store in Brooklawn, NJ. The drop off box is located in the lobby of the Cultural Center. Please submit receipts timely, only tapes from within 4 months of the transaction date are accepted.

REDNER’S Register Tapes: We are now collecting Redner’s Market register tapes. Remember to use your Pump Perks card when making purchases. The drop off box is located in the lobby of the Cultural Center.
PRAYERS BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

(The Communion Prayers are recited silently by those prepared to receive the Holy Mysteries)

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown. And make me worthy without condemnation to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of the future life and kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

Receive me today, Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical Supper. I will not reveal Your mystery to Your adversaries. Nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas. But as the thief I confess to You: Lord, remember me in Your kingdom.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

“We thank You, loving Master, benefactor of our souls, that again today You have counted us worthy of Your heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Set us a straight path; make us all firm in reverence of You; keep watch over our lives; safeguard our movements; through the prayers and intercession of the glorious Theotokos and ever-virgin, Mary and of all Your saints. Amen.”