In the New Testament, two of the Apostle Paul’s letters are directed to Timothy, who he refers to as being a “. . . true son in the faith.” (1 Tim. 1:2) Who was Timothy? Timothy was one of the 70 apostles appointed by our Lord to take His message to the world. He was born in Lystra — son of a Greek father and a Jewish mother. His grandmother was a Christian, and it is said that she influenced him and nurtured his desire to be a follower of Christ.

It was in Lystra that Timothy met St. Paul. Impressed by the young man’s deep devotion and heartfelt desire to serve the Church, Paul asked Timothy to accompany him on his missionary journeys. Their travels took them to Achaia, Macedonia, Italy and Spain. Timothy’s eloquence, along with his gentle temperament, enabled him to be a great asset in winning souls for Christ. Eventually, Timothy followed his own missionary trail to Corinth, Philippi and Thessalonica, keeping in constant touch with his mentor through the scriptural letters that now bear his name.

The Apostle Timothy finally settled in Ephesus, where he became a bishop of that thriving community. Despite his noble efforts, Timothy was met with great opposition there from the followers of the pagan god Artemis. One evening while attempting to disperse an unruly crowd of pagan worshippers, who had gathered outside his home, Timothy suffered martyrdom at their hands. His relics were later taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople, where they were buried alongside the graves of the Evangelist Luke and the Apostle Andrew.
January 21, 2024
12th Sunday of Luke
Maximus the Confessor
Martyrs Neophytos, Agnes, Patroclus, Maximus the Greek and Eugene of Trebizond
Neophytos the Martyr of Nicaea

ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion – Ex Ipsus Katilthes (“From On High You Descended”)
From on high you descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

Apolytikion for Righteous Maximos – Orthodoxias odhighe (“The guide of orthodoxy”)
Guide of Orthodoxy and a sacred teacher of piety and dignity, luminary of the world, and God-inspired jewel of monastics, O wise Maximus, the Spirit's instrument: by your teachings you enlightened all. Intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Apolytikion of St. Sophia/Ss. Faith, Hope & Agape
Greek
Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tais anlais tou Kyrion, Sophia maritis semnip, kai prosagages Christo karpon idytaton, tus tis nidyos su vlastus, di' agonon evagon, Agapin te ke Elpida, syn ti theofroni Pisti; meth' on dysopi yer pandon imon.

English Phonetics for Greek
Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyrion Sofia martys semni, ke prosigages Christo karpon idytaton, tus tis nidyos su vlastus, di' agonon evagon, Agapin te ke Elpida, syn ti theofroni Pisti; meth' on dysopi yer 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 Love and Hope, along with God-minded Faith; together intercede with God for us all.

Seasonal kontakion – O mitran parthenikin (“The womb of a virgin”)
You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.
Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians 3:4-11

Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.
At that time, as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said: “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus’s feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus: “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” And he said to him: “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”
January Poor Box Donations
Thank you for considering a gift!

Please consider supporting the philanthropic outreach of our Church through the Philoptochos Poor Box located in the Pangari. Each month 100% of the donations are designated for a local charity.

Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box for January benefit Marvin’s Home of Lansdale, which works with youth and young adults who have been homeless or have aged out of the foster care system. You can learn more about this worthwhile nonprofit at https://www.marvinshome.org. Please pray for the youth and young adults who have been helped by Marvin’s Home as well as those who work on their behalf.

Please consider donating to this worthwhile charity at: http://www.saintsophiachurch.org/poorboxdonations.html or submit a check payable to St. Sophia Philoptochos and indicate Poor Box on the memo line. God bless you!

Pan-Hellenic Scholarship: Calling all exceptional undergraduate students of Hellenic descent—consider becoming a Pan-Hellenic Scholar! Do you or an exceptional under-graduate student you know qualify to be a Pan-Hellenic Scholar? The 2023/2024 application is now open and accepting applications! Application deadline 1/31/2024. https://www.panhellenicsf.org/apply.

Adult Ed: The fourth and final adult catechism class in the “Growing in Faith” series will take place in the coming weeks. This is a beautiful opportunity to learn more about our Orthodox faith and how it can be applied to our daily life. In session 4 we will discuss Our Sacramental Duty - Confession, Holy Communion, Marriage (between a Man and Woman), Chrismation, Baptism, etc., What are the duties of the God Parents, etc. Stay tuned for the date of this class.

Calling All Current Girl Scouts of our Parish: If you would like to sign up to do your own cookie booth during coffee hour, please email Elaine in the Parish office (office@saintsophiachurch.org). Cookie sales will take place beginning Sun. Jan. 21st and ending Sun. March 10th. You will need to set-up & decorate your table, clean up afterwards, and dress in either your GS uniform or a GS shirt. Thank you!

THE NICENE CREED
(The Confession of Faith)

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 worshipped 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
**PRAYER MINISTRY**

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." *Philippians 4:6-7*

"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing you will receive." *Matthew 21:22*

"For with God, nothing will be impossible." *Luke 1:37*

Clearly, there is nothing more powerful than the power of prayer. Imagine someone struggling or suffering and then having multiple people praying for them daily! Our "Prayer Warriors" do just that. They will pray for individuals added to the list daily for a period of 6 months.

If you know of someone in need, you can add them to our prayer list using one of the following methods:

1. Fill out a request form at the box found in the church narthex **OR**
2. Send an email to Prayers@SaintSophiaChurch.org **OR**
3. Use the anonymous online form (the link is found under Prayer Ministry on our website), or you can use this link [https://forms.office.com/r/k454SldotM](https://forms.office.com/r/k454SldotM) **OR**
4. Use the QR form below (also found on the box in the narthex) which takes you to the anonymous form.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Jan. 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Adults)</td>
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<td>Wed. Jan. 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Little Angels</td>
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<td>Thurs. Jan. 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Jan. 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy, Philoptochos Vasilopita &amp; St. Basil Breakfast Fundraiser</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Adults)</td>
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<td>Wed. Jan. 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Little Angels</td>
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<td>Thurs. Feb. 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Feb. 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy, Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Feb. 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Adults)</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Little Angels</td>
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<td>Thurs. Feb. 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>JOY/HOPE Bible Bowl hosted by St. Sophia</td>
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<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Trivia Nile (Doors open at 5:00 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Feb. 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy, Stewardship Sunday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Adults)</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Little Angels</td>
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<td>Thurs. Feb. 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Feb. 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy, After Liturgy</td>
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<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Adults)</td>
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<td>Wed. Feb. 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
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<td>Thurs. Feb. 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Feb. 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy, Parish St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Little Angels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb. 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Greek School (Children)</td>
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**Communion Prayers**

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, in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the remission of sins and for eternal life. Amen.

Behold, I approach for Divine Communion. O Maker, burn me not as I partake. For You are fire consuming the unworthy. But cleanse me from every stain.

O Son of God, receive me today as a partaker of Your mystical supper. For I will not speak of the mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss, as did Judas. But like the thief, I confess to You: Remember me, Lord, in Your Kingdom.

Tremble, O man, as you behold the divine Blood. It is a burning coal that sears the unworthy. The Body of God both deifies and nourishes me: It deifies the Spirit and wondrously nourishes the mind.

You have smitten me with yearning, O Christ, and by Your divine eros You have changed me. But burn up with spiritual fire my sins, and grant me to be filled with delight in You, so that, leaping for joy, I may magnify, O Good One, Your two comings.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I should dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my vesture will condemn me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. Cleanse, O Lord, the filth of my soul, and save me, as You are the one Who loves mankind. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul, and save me.

Master Who loves mankind, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my judgment because I am unworthy, but rather for the purification and sanctification of both soul and body and the pledge of the life and Kingdom to come. It is good for me to cleave unto God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

O Son of God, receive me today as a partaker of Your mystical supper. For I will not speak of the mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss, as did Judas. But like the thief, I confess to You: Remember me, Lord, in Your Kingdom.
St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape Vigil Candle: If you are interested in sponsoring a vigil candle, please see a Parish Council member at the Pangari – no advance signup necessary and several individuals or families can sponsor each week. The proceeds of these donations will go to our Mortgage Reduction Fund. Each vigil candle lasts one week; the asking donation is $10.

Thank you to our first and second grade Sunday school students and their teacher, Mrs. Sofia Athineos Sprayberry, for making the prosphoron that was used in today’s Divine Liturgy.

Memorial: Today’s memorial is chanted for the souls of:

Pauline (Panagiota) Papadakes (2 years), beloved wife of Harry and loving mother of Sophia. She is also survived by her granddaughter Theodora and her two younger sisters, Xanthoula and Matoula. May her memory be eternal.

and

Dr. Robert Moses (2 years), father to Bob, father-in-law to Coleen, and Gramps (Jedo) to Jake. May his memory be eternal.

Coffee Hour: Today’s coffee hour is offered by Harry and Sophia Papadakes and Bob and Coleen Moses in memory of their loved ones.

AHEPA VFC 432 will have their 2024 kick-off meeting today after Divine Liturgy. There is much to discuss – ALL are encouraged to attend. Chapter President, Matt Stolarczyk - mattstolarczyk@cs.com - (215)740-8841.

Girl Scout Cookies Have Arrived! It’s that wonderful time of year again for our local Girl Scout Troops to sell their delicious cookies! Please support our local Girl Scouts that belong to our parish. Don’t delay… the cookies will only be here until March 10th.

Spare Change for OCMC: Thank you to everyone who dropped their spare change in the big donation bottle that was in the Cultural Center lobby. We accumulated $83 in cash and coins, and from these donations, a check will be sent to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center.

Peter & Alice Zavitsanos Scholarship: We would like to take this opportunity to formally congratulate Nicholas Papadimitriou on being the recipient of the Dr. Peter & Alice Zavitsanos Scholarship for 2023. Nicholas is a first-year law student at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Thank you to Dr. Pete and Aliki for offering this beautiful expression of love and philanthropy to the children of our parish.

GOYA Food Drive: Thank you to everyone who donated food for our Holiday Food Drive. Between October 30th of last year and Theophany, we reached our goal of donating 1,000 pounds of food to the Daily Bread Food Pantry in Collegeville.

Blessing of the Homes at Theophany: If you wish to have your home and/or business blessed, please call or email the Parish office to put your name on the list for a visitation.

HELP WANTED! We are looking for friendly, welcoming faces to be part of our Pangari Team. You do NOT need to be a member of the Parish Council to serve Pangari duty. What you do need to do is welcome fellow parishioners, make change when they purchase candles, help with passing the collection tray, etc. It’s a great way to serve the Parish and to learn more about how the Parish operates as you’ll be serving next to existing Parish Council members. If you are interested, then please reach out to either Elaine Piligian (Parish secretary) or John Pogas.

The Choir is Looking for New Members: Can you sing? Do you play piano? The choir is looking to expand our membership. All are welcome to sit in on our rehearsals and/or Liturgies to learn more about our music and to see if the choir is right for you. Please call Tom Cox with questions (215-859-1009) or email him at tcox@myisolutions.com. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!
February 11, 2024
Stewardship Appreciation Sunday

In appreciation for the tremendous support of our stewards, the Parish Council invites you to a complimentary breakfast on Sunday, February 11, 2024, immediately following Divine Liturgy. We hope you can join us in fellowship!
**BIBLE BOWL**

**FEBRUARY 10TH 10AM**

JOIN US FOR FUN, FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION SHOWING OUR SCRIPTURE KNOWLEDGE

Kindly bring laundry soap, dish soap, baby wash or baby ointment for donation to support the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church
900 S. Trooper Road
Jeffersonville, PA 19403

RSVP BY 2/7/24

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**St. Basil BREAKFAST**

**JANUARY 28, 2024**

PANCAKES
SCRAMBLED EGGS
SAUSAGE LINKS
BACON
CEREAL VARIETY
COFFEE - JUICE - MILK

$12 Donation

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
SAINT BASIL ACADEMY IN GARRISON, NY
FOCUS is The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve (FOCUS), a national organization with programs and centers across the US designed to address poverty in America. You can learn more on the website, https://focusnorthamerica.org.

**KICK-OFF MEETING**

**FOOD PANTRY & FEEDING MINISTRY**

**JANUARY 30, 2024 @ 6:30PM**

Annunciation Church
7921 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027

Help us address the needs of our neighbors.
Join us as we develop a food pantry & feeding ministry.
We'll (i) review the plan, (ii) build our team, and (iii) get to work!
Dinner will be served. All are invited.

**RSVP BY JANUARY 23: SCHISTOCFOROU@FOCUSNA.ORG**

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**Project Mexico 2024**

The photo above (on the left) shows Carlos, Lucera and their children standing in front of their new home. Prior to July 2023, they had to endure winters in a makeshift home that included a dirt floor. The photo on the right shows their sons celebrating the fact that they will not have to endure another winter of mud in their home during the winter rainy season.

Everything changed when we handed the keys to Carlos and his family. While they thanked us for the home, WE thanked them for opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ and put our Faith in the Lord to work for this very beautiful family.

Our parish has once again committed to fielding a group of volunteers to help Project Mexico build a house for a needy family in Rosarito, Mexico. This deeply rewarding experience has now become a regular ministry for our Parish. Our team has committed to building a home from July 5 – 11, 2024, but we need your help. We have 7 people on our team and need at least 3 more. If you would like to learn more, join the team, or learn how you can help sponsor our team, please email John Pogas, the group leader, at johnpogas@gmail.com.