

Liturgical Services are now streamed on YouTube. You DO NOT need a YouTube account to access the on-line services, nor do you need to subscribe. Simply click on the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/@stsophiaVF>

PLEASE keep in mind that our fixed costs are still ever present. We hope you can help us with an online donation. You can give by going to our website, www.saintsophiachurch.org and clicking on the "Donate" button.

Donate



You can also donate using Venmo! Just search in Venmo or click on www.venmo.com/SaintSophiaChurch

We also accept Zelle as a form of payment! Through your bank's Zelle system, input treasurer@saintsophiachurch.org as a recipient and you'll be ready to donate to St. Sophia Church.



**St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape
Greek Orthodox Church of Valley Forge
900 South Trooper Rd., Jeffersonville, PA 19403**

**Rev. Fr. Symeon Williams
Proistamenos**

September 28, 2025

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Today is Fast Free

1st Sunday of Luke

Chariton the Confessor

Our Righteous Father Alkeisonus, Metropolitan of Nicopolis; Old Epirus

Baruch the Prophet

Neophytos & Auxentios the Martyrs of Cyprus

Wenceslaus the Martyr, Prince of the Czechs



**St. Sophia/SS. Faith, Hope & Agape
Greek Orthodox Church of Valley Forge**

900 South Trooper Road
Jeffersonville, PA, 19403

Tel.: (610) 650-8960 • Fax: (610) 650-8961

www.saintsophiachurch.org email: office@saintsophiachurch.org

Sunday Worship: 8:45 am - Orthros: 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Office Hours - 10 am to 4 pm

Rev. Fr. Symeon Williams
frsymeonwilliams@gmail.com
Metropolis of New Jersey



September 28, 2025

1st Sunday of Luke



ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion -- Katelisas to Stavro ("By Thy Cross Destroyed")

O Death didst Thou destroy by Thy Cross. Thou opened Paradise to the Thief and the laments of the myrrhbearers didst Thou change and to Thine own Apostles command them to announce that Thou had risen O Christ our God, Who gives to the World Thy Great Mercy.

Festal Apolytikion – Tes ton dhakrion sou roes ("With the river of your tears")

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Chariton our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

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

Greek

Ὁς ελαία κατά καρπος ανεβλάστησας, ἐν ταῖς ἀνλαῖς τοῦ Κυρίου, Σοφία μάρτυς σεμνή, καί προσήγαγες Χριστῶ καρπὸν ἡ δύτατον, τοὺς τῆς νηδύος σου βλαστούς, δι' ἀγώνων εὐαγων, Ἀγάπην τε καὶ Ἐλπίδα σὺν τῇ θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθ' ὧν δυσώπει ὑπὲρ πάντων ἡμῶν.

English Phonetics for Greek

Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyriou Sofia martyis 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 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 Love and Hope, along with God-minded Faith; together intercede with God for us all.

Seasonal Kontakion – Prostasia ton Christianon ("O unfailing protection of Christians")

O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

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.

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/LZAHY16LSZ> **OR**
4. Use the QR form below (also found on the box in the narthex) which takes you to the anonymous form.



The DWYC Presents:

SAVE THE DATE!



**2025 GOYA
FALL RETREAT**

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025

**INNABAH CAMP & RETREAT CENTER
SPRING CITY, PA**

Registration opens September 28th!

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Verse: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς

Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 6:1-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Κύριος ἰσχὺν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ δώσει.

Στίχ. Ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ υἱοὶ Θεοῦ, ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ δόξαν καὶ τιμὴν.

Ἀδελφοί, συνεργοῦντες δὲ καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ Θεοῦ δέξασθαι ὑμᾶς - λέγει γάρ, Καιρῷ δεκτῷ ἐπήκουσά σοι, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σωτηρίας ἐβοήθησά σοι· ἰδοὺ, νῦν καιρὸς εὐπρόσδεκτος, ἰδοὺ, νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας - μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπήν, ἵνα μὴ μωμηθῇ ἡ διακονία· ἀλλ' ἐν παντὶ συνιστῶντες ἑαυτοὺς ὡς Θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῇ πολλῇ, ἐν θλίψεσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαῖς, ἐν φυλακαῖς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγρυπνίαις, ἐν νηστείαις, ἐν ἀγνότητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἀγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτῳ, ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει Θεοῦ, διὰ τῶν ὄπλων τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας· ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς· ὡς ἀγνοούμενοι, καὶ ἐπιγινωσκόμενοι· ὡς ἀποθνήσκοντες, καὶ ἰδοὺ, ζῶμεν· ὡς παιδευόμενοι, καὶ μὴ θανατούμενοι· ὡς λυπούμενοι, αἰεὶ δὲ χαίροντες· ὡς πτωχοί, πολλοὺς δὲ πλουτιζόντες· ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες, καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.

**GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY
FIRST DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2025**



**2ND ANNUAL
MUSIC & DANCE FESTIVAL**

**FEBRUARY 13-15, 2026
OPENING CEREMONY FRIDAY EVENING**

SHERATON DOWNTOWN
PHILADELPHIA



GOSPEL READING

The Gospel According to Luke 5:1-11

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 5:1-11 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐστὼς ὁ Ἰησοῦς παρὰ τὴν λίμνην Γεννησαρέτ, καὶ εἶδε δύο πλοῖα ἐστῶτα παρὰ τὴν λίμνην· οἱ δὲ ἁλιεῖς ἀποβάαντες ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀπέπλυναν τὰ δίκτυα. ἐμβὰς δὲ εἰς ἓν τῶν πλοίων, ὃ ἦν τοῦ Σίμωνος, ἠρώτησεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἐπαναγαγεῖν ὀλίγον· καὶ καθίσας ἐδίδασκεν ἐκ τοῦ πλοίου τοὺς ὄχλους. ὡς δὲ ἐπαύσατο λαλῶν, εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμωνα· ἐπανάγαγε εἰς τὸ βάθος καὶ χαλάσατε τὰ δίκτυα ὑμῶν εἰς ἄγραν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Σίμων εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιστάτα, δι' ὅλης τῆς νυκτὸς κοπιάσαντες οὐδὲν ἐλάβομεν· ἐπὶ δὲ τῷ ῥήματι σου χαλάσω τὸ δίκτυον. καὶ τοῦτο ποιήσαντες συνέκλεισαν πλήθος ἰχθύων πολὺ· διερρήγνυτο δὲ τὸ δίκτυον αὐτῶν. καὶ κατένευσαν τοῖς μετόχοις τοῖς ἐν τῷ ἑτέρῳ πλοίῳ τοῦ ἐλθόντος συλλαβέσθαι αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἦλθον καὶ ἔπλησαν ἀμφοτέρα τὰ πλοῖα, ὥστε βυθίζεσθαι αὐτά. ἰδὼν δὲ Σίμων Πέτρος προσέπεσε τοῖς γόνασιν Ἰησοῦ λέγων· ἔξελθε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ, ὅτι ἄνηρ ἁμαρτωλός εἰμι, Κύριε· θάμβος γὰρ περιέσχεν αὐτὸν καὶ πάντας τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τῇ ἄγρα τῶν ἰχθύων ἢ συνέλαβον, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Ἰάκωβον καὶ Ἰωάννην, υἱοὺς Ζεβεδαίου, οἱ ἦσαν κοινωνοὶ τῷ Σίμωνι. καὶ εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμωνα ὁ Ἰησοῦς· μὴ φοβοῦ· ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἀνθρώπους ἔσῃ ζωγρῶν. καὶ καταγαγόντες τὰ πλοῖα ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, ἀφέντες ἅπαντα ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ.



Facing the needs of our neighbors, together.

FOCUS North America exists to serve the poor by bringing together Orthodox Christian churches and community partners to provide Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, Shelter, and other assistance to address the needs of local communities.

FOCUS Philadelphia – based out of Saint Sophia and led by John Pogas as Center Director – is committed to understanding and addressing the needs of our neighbors. As Christ said, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me” - Matthew 25:40

We serve hot meals in

- Norristown every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM
- Philadelphia every Thursday evening at 8:00 PM

Discover how you can support this vital ministry either by volunteering, donating food, funding or simply spreading the word. Visit www.focusphiladelphia.org to learn more or use our SignUpGenius (link below).



Link to SignUpGenius

JOY/HOPE

FALL is for FELLOWSHIP

Harvesting Memories Around the Campfire

SATURDAY *October 18th*
5-8 Pm

Join us for a cozy autumn evening for all our JOY/HOPE families

**FARM ACCESS, HAYRIDE,
CORN MAZE, SMORES &
A RESERVED CAMPFIRE SITE** **\$18
PER PERSON**

RSVP:
☎ 610-906-5518 (Annie)
☎ 610-761-7767 (Karl)

MERRYMEAD FARM
2222 S VALLEY FORGE ROAD
LANSDALE, PA 19446



Support our GOYA while getting your car sparkling clean!



CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26th

**SUGGESTED
DONATION \$10**

Immediately After Church or
During Coffee Hour in Parking Lot

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

ENGLISH

Our Father, who art in heaven;
hallowed be Thy name, Thy
Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass
against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from
evil.

GREEK

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς
ἀγιασθήτω τό ὄνομά σου,
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,
γενηθήτω τό θέλημά σου, ὡς
ἐν οὐρανῷ καί ἐπί τῆς γῆς.

Τόν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τόν
ἐπιούσιον δός ἡμῖν
σήμερον καί ἄφες ἡμῖν τά
ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καί ἡμεῖς
ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν καί
μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς
πειρασμόν, ἀλλά ῥύσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπό
τοῦ πονηροῦ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ENGLISH PHONETICS

Pá-ter i-món o en tis ou-ra-nís
a-gi-as-thí-to to o-no-má Sou,
el-thé-to I va-si-lí-a Sou,
ge-ni-thí-to to thé-li-má Sou, os
en ou-ra-nó ke e-pi tis ghis.

Ton ár-ton i-món ton
e-pi-ou-si-on dos i-mín
sí-me-ron ke á-fes i-mín ta
o-fe-lí-ma-ta i-món, os ke i-mís
a-fí-e-men tis o-fi-lé-tes i-món ke
mi i-se-nég-kis i-más is
pi-ras-món, al-la rí-se i-más a-pó
tou po-ni-roú.

Phonetics by Dr. Christine Kerxhalli,
orthodoxtoday.wordpress.com

September 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 to a specific charitable organization selected by Philoptochos.

Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box for September will benefit the Norristown Hospitality Center, a faith-based nonprofit which provides daily shelter, food, shower, phone, fax, mail, and access to social workers for those in need. You can find additional information on this worthwhile organization at <http://www.hospitalitycenter.org>.

Please consider donating to this worthwhile charity at <http://www.saintsophiachurch.org/poorboxdonations.html> or submit a check payable to St. Sophia Philoptochos adding "poor box" to the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

Saint Sophia Knitting Guild

UPDATE

We're excited to announce that we've launched three new projects and are looking for volunteers and sponsors! If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, please consider joining us. You can also sponsor a project with a yarn or monetary donation. Please email or text Maria Swope for details (MariaSwope5@gmail.com/610.291.0895).



Our membership is open to those outside our parish as well. So feel free to share with anyone you know who may be interested in joining us.

Knitting faithfully with hope and love, serving our Philoptochos mission through the donation of handmade knitted and crocheted items



SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sun. Sept. 28 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 1 st Sunday of Luke
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Sept. 29 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Wed. Oct. 2 nd	1:30 pm -	Interfaith Blood Drive at The Church of Jesus Christ of 6:30 pm Latter-day Saints., 2530 Stinson Lane (see flyer)
Thurs. Oct. 2 nd	10:00 am	Senior Parea
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Sat., Oct. 4 th	6:00 pm	Trivia Nite (Doors open 5:00 pm)
Sun. Oct. 5 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 2 nd Sunday of Luke
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	6:30 pm	Great Vespers of St. Thomas AT our sister parish of St. Thomas, Cherry Hill, NJ
Mon. Oct. 6 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 9:45 am Divine Liturgy for St. Thomas Feastday AT St. Thomas, Cherry Hill, NJ
	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Oct. 6 th through Oct. 9 th		Fr. Symeon attending Clergy Retreat, Naples, FL
Thurs. Oct. 9 th	10:00 am	Senior Parea
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Sun. Oct. 12 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday of the 7 th Ecumenical Council
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Oct. 13 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Thurs. Oct. 16 th	10:00 am	Senior Parea
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Oct. 16 th through 19 th		The Annual Archon Weekend, New York City, NY
Fri. Oct. 17 th	6:30 pm	Great Vespers for St. Luke the Evangelist AT St. Luke G. O. Church, Broomall, PA
Sat. Oct. 18 th	9:00 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy for St. Luke Feastday AT St. Luke G. O. Church, Broomall, PA
	Time TBD	HOPE/JOY Fall Dance AT St. Sophia (more info to follow)
Sun. Oct. 19 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 3 rd Sunday of Luke
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Oct. 20 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Thurs. Oct. 23 rd	10:00 am	Senior Parea
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Sat. Oct. 25 th	6:00 pm	Great Vespers for St. Demetrios the Great AT St. Demetrios Church, Upper Darby, PA

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.

September 28, 2025
1st Sunday of Luke



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.

Standing versus kneeling on Sundays: Each Sunday is a joyful celebration of Pascha – of Christ's victory over death and sin. We experience the Resurrection from Pascha until Pentecost by standing in prayer during all liturgies and do not kneel; kneeling and prostrations are demonstrations of repentance. As every Sunday is a "little Pascha", we are reminded that the Church teaches us to remain standing on Sundays during the invocation (Ἡ Ἐπίκλησις) of the Holy Spirit (the Consecration of the Body and Blood of our Lord). In contrast, during weekday services throughout the year it is customary to kneel during the Consecration. ***In lieu of kneeling on Sundays, please bow your heads reverently and pray along with the choir.***

Memorial: Today's memorial is chanted for the soul of **Athanasia Koletas** (3 years), beloved mother of Leo (Bonnie) Koletas. May her memory be eternal.

Coffee Hour: Today's coffee hour is offered by **Leo and Bonnie Koletas** in memory of Athanasia Koletas.

AHEPA Meeting Today: There will be an AHEPA meeting today after Divine Liturgy.

Free Books! A selection of children's books, collected over time and no longer in use, will be available at the back of the hall this Sunday. We invite you to explore the collection and take home any books that interest you.

Lost & Found: Several lost items, such as clothing, umbrellas, and glasses, are now at the Lost & Found Table in the Cultural Center lobby. Stop by if you are missing something.

Senior Citizen Ministry: St. Sophia's Senior Pareia is open to all senior citizens of the community. The meetings take place on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12 noon.



Stewardship: Our fixed costs are ever present. Please remember to fulfill your pledges (or send in your pledge if you have not already done so) as we resume our ministries and activities this fall. If you have misplaced your form, just click on the following link [Commitment Form](#). ***Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish!***

Mortgage Reduction Campaign: As of September 1, 2025, our mortgage balance is **\$263,150.82**. Thank you to our Stewards and friends who participated this month, and please help us continue to reduce the mortgage to \$0 in the near future.

Register for Youth Ministries: Registration is **still** open for Sunday School and Youth Ministries. For more information about Sunday School please visit www.saintsophiachurch.org/sundayschool. **If you haven't yet done so, please sign up your child(ren) today!**

Sponsor Coffee Hour: Thank you to everyone who has sponsored coffee hour recently. There are several upcoming Sundays available. If you are interested in sponsoring a coffee hour, please sign up on the Coffee Hour Sponsor Sheet on the window at the back of the hall near the coffee/refreshments table. **The sponsor is responsible for bringing the food, but the church will supply the coffee, creamer, juice, and paper products to eliminate waste and clutter. We ask that the sponsors donate \$25 (made payable to St. Sophia Church) to offset these expenses.** Thank you!

ST. SOPHIA GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH



FOOD & CRAFT FAIR



Nov. 7 – Nov. 9, 2025
Open from Lunch through Dinner!!

Hours:

Fri., Nov 7: 11AM – 8PM

Sat., Nov 8: 11AM – 8PM

Sun., Nov 9: Noon – 6PM



Serving Authentic Greek Food Daily

Area's Best Greek Food & Pastries

Moussaka, Pastitsio, Galaktobourekos, Baklava, Gyro, Souvlaki,
Spanakopita & many other fine Greek favorites.

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

For more information visit: www.saintsophiachurch.org or call: (610) 650-8960

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, 900 South Trooper Road, Jeffersonville PA 19403
From Rte 202, 422W to Trooper Road Exit (Rte 363N), on Right Side before Walmart

Carve out a
new tradition.

Give Blood!



**American
Red Cross**



Interfaith Blood Drive

to address the nation-wide blood shortage

Joint effort of congregations from:

Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

1:30 pm – 6:30 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

2530 Stinson Lane

Norristown, PA 19403

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org

Search using code: **PAinterfaith**

Or call **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2015 The American National Red Cross

ST. SOPHIA PRESENTS

TRIVIA NITE

OCTOBER 4, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 5PM - TRIVIA BEGINS AT 6PM
REGISTRATION/PAYMENT DEADLINE - OCTOBER 1st

\$25 Adults / \$20 Students
Coffee & Dessert Included - BYOB

ST. SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
 900 S TROOPER RD, JEFFERSONVILLE, PA 19403

REGISTRATION DETAILS ON:
www.saintsophiachurch.org/trivianite

Please bring non-perishable food items for the Patrician Society
 & receive a special raffle ticket

venmo




The Greater Philadelphia Committee of IOCC invites you to the
14TH ANNUAL BANQUET TO BENEFIT IOCC
 Sunday, October 26, 2025

3:30pm Hors d'Oeuvres & Silent Auction • 5:00pm Dinner & Program

Come and learn about IOCC's programs around the world and how your support makes a difference in places like Ethiopia, Greece, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and the US.

Adelphia Restaurant, Pan Athenian Grand Ballroom
 1750 Clements Bridge Rd., Deptford, NJ 08096

To reserve your place and for **sponsorships**, see your parish rep or visit

iocc.org/philadelphia

Or make checks out to IOCC and mail to
 IOCC | 110 West Road, Suite 360 | Baltimore, MD 21204

Tickets: \$85 per person

Questions? E-mail Theodora Veronis at TVeronis@iocc.org

ST. SOPHIA PARISH REPS: Tina Coutavas 215-518-0192 and Tom Cox 215-859-1009



The following sponsorship opportunities are available:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Benefactor (\$5,000+) - includes 10 guests | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (\$500) - includes 4 guests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Benefactor (\$2,000) - includes 8 guests | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (\$250) - includes 2 guests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (\$1,000) - includes 6 guests | |

Sponsorships received by Oct. 17 will be recognized in the program.

FINANCIAL DASHBOARD FOR AUGUST 2025

Our goal is to have Stewardship cover 100% of our operating expenses each year so we can dedicate fundraising to ministries of the Church. We have only made it 2/3 of the way in the last three years.

	Aug 2025	Aug 2024	Aug 2023
*Regular Operating Income	\$355,753	\$311,259	\$292,381
**Regular Operating Expenses	\$286,980	\$338,806	\$298,889
Net Regular Operating Income or (Loss)	\$68,773	(\$27,548)	(\$6,508)
*Non-Operating Income	\$129,062	\$224,779	\$569,774
**Non-Operating Expenses	\$25,817	\$120,183	\$337,036
Non-Operating Net Income or Loss	\$103,245	\$104,597	\$232,739
Stewardship Income	\$207,650	\$208,281	\$191,858
% of Regular Operating Expenses Covered by Stewardship	72%	61%	64%
Number of Stewarding Families	202	184	182
Median Stewardship Pledge	\$600	\$750	\$720
Total Expenses Invested in parish chosen charities and ministries	\$10,682	\$6,507	\$13,217
% of Regular Operating Expenses invested in parish chosen charities and ministries	4%	2%	4%

*Operating Income includes income from operating as a church throughout the year, such as Stewardship, Candles, Trays, Donations and Offerings, Greek School tuition and Hall Rentals. Non-operating income includes insurance payments, Festival and other fundraising events, church beautification and investment gains.

**Operating Expenses includes expenses we have to operate as a church throughout the year, such as Buildings & Grounds, National Ministries, Payroll, Insurance, Utilities, Administrative, and Ministry expenses. Non-operating expenses include Capital, beautification, and disaster recovery expenses and mortgage interest.

