

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](http://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](http://www.venmo.com/SaintSophiaChurch)

We also accept Zelle as a form of payment! Through your bank's Zelle system, input [treasurer@saintsophiachurch.org](mailto: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**

**October 19, 2025**

**8:45 am Orthros**

**10:00 am Divine Liturgy**

**Today is Fast Free**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke**

**Joel the Prophet**

**Varys the Martyr**

**John of Rilias**

**Felix the Hieromartyr & Eusebius the Deacon**

**John the Wonderworker of Kronstadt**

**Frideswide of Oxford**



**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](http://www.saintsophiachurch.org) email: [office@saintsophiachurch.org](mailto: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](mailto:frsymeonwilliams@gmail.com)  
Metropolis of New Jersey



October 19, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke



## ENTRANCE HYMNS

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

#### Greek

*Ὁς ελαία κατά καρπος ανεβλάστησας, ἐν ταῖς ἀνλαῖς τοῦ Κυρίου, Σοφία μάρτυς σεμνή, καί προσήγαγες Χριστῷ καρπὸν ἠδύτατον, τοὺς τῆς νηδύος σου βλαστούς, δι’ ἀγώνων εὐάγων, Ἀγάπην τε καὶ Ἐλπίδα σὺν τῇ θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθῶν δυσώπει ὑπὲρ πάντων ἡμῶν.*

#### English Phonetics for Greek

*Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyriou 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 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](mailto: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.



**Archon Symposium - November 15<sup>th</sup> - "Nicaea: Then and Now":** With the blessings of His Eminence, Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey, the Archons of the Philadelphia region will hold a symposium entitled: ***Nicaea: Then and Now***. It will take place on **Saturday morning, November 15<sup>th</sup>** at the St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Philadelphia. Divine Liturgy, commemorating the start of the Advent Season, will begin at 8am, with the program immediately following, beginning with a brief continental breakfast (see enclosed flyer).

As it is the 1,700th Anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council, convened by Emperor Constantine in 325AD, the timing of this symposium is especially timely as both His All-Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV will travel together to visit this holy site later in the month.

We would be most pleased if you can attend this Symposium. Kindly RSVP to Dr. Cary Limberakis at [ArchonCJL@gmail.com](mailto:ArchonCJL@gmail.com).



**Nicaea**  
Then And Now  
An Archon Symposium

**Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate**  
Protecting the Future of Faith®

**Saturday November 15, 2025**  
9:30AM

**SPEAKERS**  
Anastasios "Tom" Papademetriou, PhD  
Professor, Stockton University  
George E. Demacopoulos, PhD  
Professor, Fordham University  
A. Edward Sicienski, PhD  
Professor, Stockton University



**SCHEDULE**

- **8:00-9:15 am** Divine Liturgy – Start of the Advent Season, St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral
- **9:30-10:00 am** Continental Breakfast
- **10:00-10:45 am** Witnessing Nicaea: The First Ecumenical Council as Historical Process and Experience, by Archon Anastasios Papademetriou, PhD
- **10:45-11:30 am** Is there a Nicaean Legacy without an Empire? By Archon George E. Demacopoulos, PhD, Professor, Fordham University
- **11:30-12:15 pm** Nicaea and Ecumenism Today. By A. Edward Sicienski, PhD, Professor, Stockton University
- **12:15-12:30 pm** Response by His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

**LOCATION**

**St. George G.O. Cathedral**  
Philadelphia, PA

**ORGANIZED BY THE**  
Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Metropolis of New Jersey  
RSVP to [ArchonCJL@gmail.com](mailto:ArchonCJL@gmail.com)

**Epistle Reading**

The reading is from **St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9**

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

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise --whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς  
Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 11:31-33, 12:1-9 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα**

***Ἰσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησίς μου ὁ Κύριος.  
Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος.***

Ἀδελφοί, Ὁ θεὸς καὶ πατὴρ τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ οἶδεν, ὃ ὦν εὐλογητὸς εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, ὅτι οὐ ψεύδομαι. Ἐν Δαμασκῷ ὁ ἐθνάρχης Ἀρέτα τοῦ βασιλέως ἐφρούρει τὴν Δαμασκηνῶν πόλιν, πιάσαι με θέλων· καὶ διὰ θυρίδος ἐν σαργάνῃ ἐχαλάσθην διὰ τοῦ τείχους καὶ ἐξέφυγον τὰς χεῖρας αὐτοῦ. Καυχᾶσθαι δὴ οὐ συμφέρει μοι· ἐλεύσομαι γὰρ εἰς ὄπασίας καὶ ἀποκαλύψεις κυρίου. Οἶδα ἄνθρωπον ἐν Χριστῷ πρὸ ἐτῶν δεκατεσσάρων - εἴτε ἐν σώματι οὐκ οἶδα· εἴτε ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματος οὐκ οἶδα· ὁ θεὸς οἶδεν - ἀρπαγέντα τὸν τοιοῦτον ἕως τρίτου οὐρανοῦ. Καὶ οἶδα τὸν τοιοῦτον ἄνθρωπον - εἴτε ἐν σώματι, εἴτε ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματος, οὐκ οἶδα· ὁ θεὸς οἶδεν - ὅτι ἠρπάγη εἰς τὸν παράδεισον, καὶ ἤκουσεν ἄρρητα ῥήματα, ἃ οὐκ ἐξὸν ἀνθρώπῳ λαλῆσαι. Ὑπὲρ τοῦ τοιοῦτου καυχῆσομαι· ὑπὲρ δὲ ἑμαυτοῦ οὐ καυχῆσομαι, εἰ μὴ ἐν ταῖς ἀσθενείαις μου· ἐὰν γὰρ θελήσω καυχῆσασθαι, οὐκ ἔσομαι ἄφρων· ἀλήθειαν γὰρ ἐρῶ· φείδομαι δέ, μή τις εἰς ἐμὲ λογισθῆται ὑπὲρ ὃ βλέπει με, ἢ ἀκούει τι ἐξ ἐμοῦ. Καὶ τῇ ὑπερβολῇ τῶν ἀποκαλύψεων ἵνα μὴ ὑπεραίρωμαι, ἐδόθη μοι σκόλοψ τῇ σαρκί, ἄγγελος Σατάν, ἵνα με κολαφίσῃ, ἵνα μὴ ὑπεραίρωμαι. Ὑπὲρ τούτου τρεῖς τὸν κύριον παρεκάλεσα ἵνα ἀποστῆ ἀπ' ἐμοῦ. Καὶ εἰρηκέν μοι, Ἀρκεῖ σοι ἡ χάρις μου· ἡ γὰρ δύναμις μου ἐν ἀσθενείᾳ τελειοῦται. Ἥδιστα οὖν μᾶλλον καυχῆσομαι ἐν ταῖς ἀσθενείαις μου, ἵνα ἐπισκηνώσῃ ἐπ' ἐμὲ ἡ δύναμις τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

## GOSPEL READING

### The Gospel According to Luke 7:11-16

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

## ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

### Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 7:11-16 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐπορεύετο εἰς πόλιν καλουμένην Ναὶν· καὶ συνεπορεύοντο αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἱκανοὶ καὶ ὄχλος πολὺς. ὡς δὲ ἤγγισε τῇ πύλῃ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐξεκομίζετο τεθνηκῶς υἱὸς μονογενῆς τῇ μητρὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ αὕτη ἦν χήρα, καὶ ὄχλος τῆς πόλεως ἱκανὸς ἦν σὺν αὐτῇ. καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὴν ὁ Κύριος ἐσπλαγχνίσθη ἐπ’ αὐτῇ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· μὴ κλαῖε· καὶ προσελθὼν ἤψατο τῆς σοροῦ, οἱ δὲ βαστάζοντες ἔστησαν, καὶ εἶπε· νεανίσκε, σοὶ λέγω, ἐγέρθητι. καὶ ἀνεκάθισεν ὁ νεκρὸς καὶ ἤρξατο λαλεῖν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὸν τῇ μητρὶ αὐτοῦ. ἔλαβε δὲ φόβος πάντας καὶ ἐδόξαζον τὸν Θεόν, λέγοντες ὅτι προφήτης μέγας ἐνήγερται ἐν ἡμῖν, καὶ ὅτι ἐπεσκέψατο ὁ Θεὸς τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ.



*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](http://www.focusphiladelphia.org) to learn more or use our SignUpGenius (link below).



Link to SignUpGenius



**Peter & Alice Zavitsanos Scholarship:** Each year, St. Sophia is pleased to offer the Peter & Alice Zavitsanos Scholarship. Last year's recipient was **John Cox**. Thanks to this generous sponsorship, we offer a \$4,000 scholarship to eligible college or university students. For questions, and to apply, please contact the Parish office at [office@saintsophiachurch.org](mailto:office@saintsophiachurch.org). The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2025.

### **Pan-Hellenic Scholarship**

Calling all exceptional undergraduate students of Hellenic descent -- consider becoming a PanHellenic Scholar! Do you or an exceptional undergraduate student you know qualify to be a PanHellenic Scholar? The 2025/2026 application is now open and accepting applications! Application deadline 1/31/2026. <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/105586-Pan-Hellenic-Scholarship-Foundation>

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  
μή 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-fí-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

## October 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.

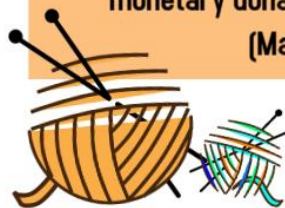
Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box for October benefit the students at Whitehall Elementary School in Norristown.

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



**We are pleased to announce the 2025 Ambassador Awards Recipients for our Parish of St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape!**

The 2025 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Delaware Valley Ambassador Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 4:00 pm, at "The Adelpia" in Deptford, NJ.

**Congratulations to our 2025 Ambassador Awards Recipients! AXIOS!**

**Community Honoree**

Carla Johnson

**Philoptochos Honoree**

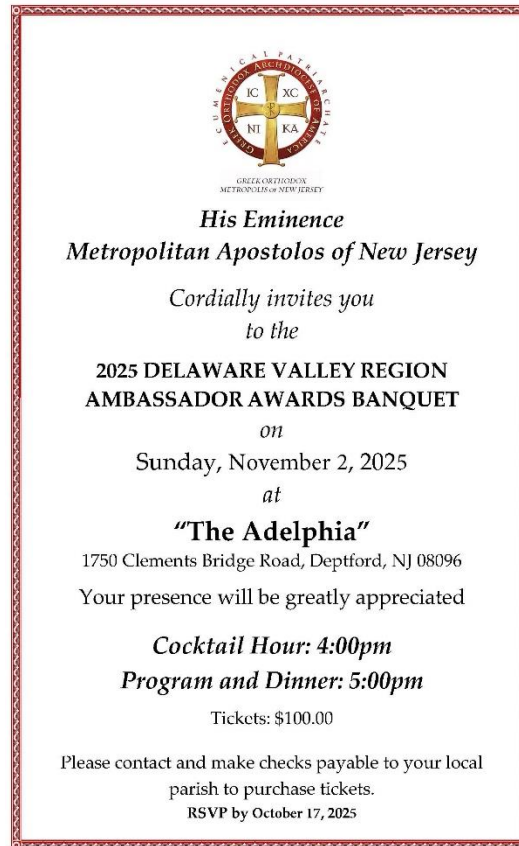
Maria Swope

**Youth Worker**

Kari Zarynow

**Senior Steward**

Vasilios Tatsis



**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.*

October 19, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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 **Evangelia Stamou (6 months)** of Athens, Greece. She was a beloved aunt to Ethel (Wesley) Spencer, Patty (Bill) Nazzaro, JoAnn (John) Kalogridis, and Janet (Van) Gegas. Evangelia was also Great-Aunt to Michael Spencer, Athena and Angela Nazzaro, Kyriaki Kalogridis and Ioanna Gegas. May her memory be eternal.

**Marriage Blessing:** Congratulations to **Larry and Alex Tavlarides**, who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 17<sup>th</sup>! "May God bless you and grant you many more years together."

**Coffee Hour:** Today's coffee hour is offered by **Patty Nazzaro** in memory of her beloved **Aunt Evangelia**.

**Craft Fair Baking:** Baking for the Craft Fair will take place next Tuesday and Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 9:00 am. The ladies will be making spanakopites. If you have any questions, speak to Sofia Tatsis or Irene Tsokas.

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

**AXIOS to John Pogas, our new Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate!**

Today, at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York City, the morning begins with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy by **His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and members of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Archdiocese** participating. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, the Archon Class of 2025 will be invested and presented with their Offikia and Cross of Saint Andrew. The new Archons, like their brethren, make a solemn commitment dedicating themselves to the protection and defense of the Holy Mother Church of Constantinople. **John Pogas** is among the Archon Class of 2025. Alex Nikas and Tom Cox are also at the event today.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**  
*Authentic Greek Food*  
**FOOD & CRAFT FAIR**  
Nov. 7-9  
**VOLUNTEER SIGN UP GENIUS** ▶ ▶

**Food & Craft Fair:** Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen and restaurant during the upcoming Food & Craft Fair on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. IN ADDITION, we can also use help on Saturday afternoon, November 1<sup>st</sup>, from Noon - 4pm and **IF NECESSARY**, Monday evening, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 6pm to 8pm, to set up the hall. Please take a moment to sign up for as many shifts that you can help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054CACAF2CA3F58-57583164-stsophia>

We ask that ALL our volunteers use SignUpGenius so that we know in advance which areas have sufficient help and which do not. If you are planning to help but cannot use SignUpGenius, please let us know so that we can put you on the schedule.

**Fall General Assembly:** The Fall General Assembly meeting will take place on **Sunday, November 16, 2025, *immediately following*** Divine Liturgy. At the meeting we will review the current and future business of our parish, including review of the budget and nominations for six candidates to serve on Parish Council for two-year terms beginning in January 2026. **Elections** for Parish Council will be held on **Sunday, December 14, 2025**, following Divine Liturgy.

\*Please note that to vote in both the General Assembly and Parish Council Elections, you must have returned a 2025 Stewardship Commitment Form and be current in your commitment. If you have not yet done so, please complete a 2025 Stewardship Commitment Form. Pledge forms can be found at the Pangari and by clicking on this link [COMMITMENT FORM](#). If you have any questions, contact the Parish office at 610-650-8960 or Tom Cox at 215-859-1009.

**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 October 1, 2025, our mortgage balance is **\$258,289**. 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.

**AHEPA VFC Lunch Social Gathering:** On Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup>, AHEPA VFC 4432, will be holding a luncheon starting at 1:30 pm at **Collegeville Diner**, 290 E Main St Collegeville, PA 19426

Please make every effort to attend this chapter social gathering. Contact **Matt Stolarczyk** via email -- [mattstolarczyk@cs.com](mailto:mattstolarczyk@cs.com) or TEXT/CALL him at (215)740-8841 to RSVP. We look forward to our Chapter's first off-site social gathering in a long time and look forward to seeing each other and discussing chapter news, etc.

### SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup> through 19 <sup>th</sup>		The Annual Archon Weekend, New York City, NY
Fri. Oct. 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Great Vespers for St. Luke the Evangelist AT St. Luke G. O. Church, Broomall, PA
Sat. Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for St. Luke the Evangelist AT St. Luke G. O. Church, Broomall, PA
Sun. Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	5pm to 8pm 8:45 am	HOPE/JOY – “Fall is for Fellowship” at Merrymead Farm, Lansdale Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke
Mon. Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Thurs. Oct. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
	10:00 am	Senior Parea
Sat. Oct. 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	1:30 pm	AHEPA VFC 4432 Social Lunch Gathering at Collegeville Diner
	6:00 pm	Great Vespers for St. Demetrios the Great AT St. Demetrios Church, Upper Darby, PA
Sun. Oct. 26 <sup>th</sup>	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki <a href="#">GOYA Car Wash during coffee hour</a>
Mon. Oct. 27 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Tues. Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy The Holy Protection of the Theotokos (Agia Skepi)
Thurs. Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Senior Parea
Sat. Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Cosmas and Damianos the Holy Unmercenaries and their mother Theodota
Sun. Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 am	Kidmission at St. Demetrios Church, Upper Darby <b>(RSVP to Kari or Annie via BAND app)</b>
	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke Daylight Saving Time Ends
Mon. Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Thurs. Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm	Metropolis Ambassador Awards (The Adelpia, Deptford, NJ)
Fri., Nov. 7 – Sun., Nov. 9	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
		Food & Craft Fair



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](http://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.*

**Free Books!** A selection of books, collected over time and no longer in use, will be available in the Cultural Center lobby again 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. Any belongings left behind will be donated to a charitable organization.

Join us for this year's  
**DVYC FALL GOYA RETREAT**

**Love Your Neighbor.**



**November 14th- 16th, 2025**  
**Innabah Camp & Retreat Center**

*Registration deadline: Nov. 1st*  
*\$235/Goyan, \$215/add. sibling*

*email [duyouthcommission@gmail.com](mailto:duyouthcommission@gmail.com)*  
*with any questions or concerns*



Metropolis of New Jersey



Scan to register.

**2025 NATIVITY RETREAT  
ANNUNCIATION / EVANGELISMOS  
ELKINS PARK**

*Going All In*  
**Deepening Your Faith**  
**Strengthening Our Family**  
**Living Your Purpose**



with **Rev. Dr. Nick Louh**



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**8:30 am - 2:00 pm**

7921 Old York Rd. Elkins Park, PA 19027. [www.anngoc.org](http://www.anngoc.org)

**8:30 am**

**Registration & Breakfast**

**9 am**

**“Deepening Our Faith”  
w/ Q&A & Refreshments**

**10:30 am**

**“Strengthening Our Family”  
w/ Q&A & Refreshments**

**11:45 am - Lunch**

**12:15 pm**

**“Living Your Purpose”  
w/ Q&A & Refreshments**

**2 pm Closing Prayer**

**Suggested  
Donation  
\$30**



**HOPE/JOY Parents:** Do you have children in Kindergarten-6th grade? Do you want to get them more involved with our St. Sophia youth? Would you like to keep up to date on DVYC and other calendared HOPE/JOY events? Please join our BAND App for communications, events, calendar, and more...

St. Sophia HOPE/JOY BAND, please scan the QR code **to the right** to join:

**ST. SOPHIA HOPE/JOY BAND**



**Sunday School K-12 Parents:** Do you wonder which Sundays we do not have Sunday School over the holidays? When is Sunday School Graduation? Or maybe what is new in Sunday School? Sunday School families please join our BAND App for our communications, calendar, and more...

St. Sophia Sunday School BAND, please scan the QR code **to the right** to join:

**ST. SOPHIA SUNDAY SCHOOL BAND**



**HOPE/JOY Dance Parents:** Do you have children in Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade who would like to learn to dance Greek dances? Wondering when practice or performances take place? Please join our BAND App for communications, events, calendar, and more...

St. Sophia HOPE/JOY DANCE GROUP BAND, please scan the QR code **to the right** to join:

**ST. SOPHIA HOPE/JOY DANCE GROUP BAND**





ST. SOPHIA CRAFT FAIR

# Yiayia's Bakery

Requesting donations of **homemade**  
cookies | cakes | cupcakes | other  
desserts

**NOVEMBER 7 - 9**

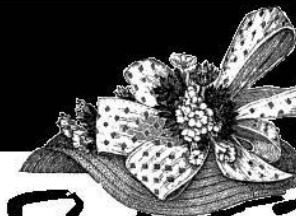
Please let us know what you will be donating  
by November 2nd either:

in person  
via Email  
using the QR code



Contact Alex Poloway for more information:  
ahpoloway@gmail.com

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, Galaktoboureko, Baklava, Gyro, Souvlaki,  
Spanakopita & many other fine Greek favorites.

**TAKE OUT AVAILABLE**



For more information visit: [www.saintsophiachurch.org](http://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