

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**

October 26, 2025

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Today is Fast Free

6th Sunday of Luke

**The Holy Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-streamer
Commemoration of the Great Earthquake in Constantinople (740)
Eata of Hexham**



**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



October 26, 2025

Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki



ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion – Effrenestho ta Ourania (“Let the Heavens Above Rejoice”)

Let the heavens above rejoice, and all those here on the earth, on the earth, be glad. A mighty feat of strength has been wrought by the arm of the Lord. O Death has he trampled down with his own death. First-born among the dead has He become, from the womb of Hades has He delivered us and has granted to the world His Great Mercy.

Apolytikion for the Earthquake – O epivlepon epi tin ghin (“You who looks upon the earth”)

You who look upon the earth and make it tremble, rescue us from the frightful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. Send down Your abundant mercies on us, at the intercession of the Theotokos, O only benevolent Lord.

Apolytikion for the Saint – Meghan evrato (“All the world found you”)

*All the world has you, its mighty champion, * fortifying us in times of danger, * and defeating our foes, O Victorious One. * So, as you humbled Lyaio's arrogance * by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, * thus, O holy Great-martyr Demetrios, * to Christ our God pray fervently, * beseeching Him to grant us His great mercy.*

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 βλαστοὺς, διὰ τῶν γόνων εὐαγῶν, Ἀγάπην τε καὶ Ἐλπίδα σὺν τῇ θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθῶν δυσώπει υπέρ 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." Philipians 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.



Archon Symposium - November 15th - "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 15th** 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.



The flyer features a red background with a gold border. At the top left is a logo with a cross and a figure. Below it, the text reads "Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate" and "Protecting the Future of Faith". The main title "Nicaea" is written in large, elegant white script. Below it, "Then and Now" and "An Archon Symposium" are written in smaller white text. On the right, the date "Saturday November 15, 2025" and time "9:30AM" are listed. Below this, the speakers are listed: "Anastasios 'Tom' Papademetriou, PhD", "George E. Demacopoulos, PhD", and "A. Edward Sicienski, PhD". At the bottom, there is a small image of a church interior with a large icon of the Holy Spirit.

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

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 2:1-10

*The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord.
Verse: Oh God, hear my cry.*

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hardworking farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

**Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς
Πρὸς Τιμόθεον β' 2:1-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα**

*Εὐφρανθήσεται δίκαιος ἐν Κυρίῳ.
Στίχ. Εἰσάκουσον, ὁ Θεός, τῆς φωνῆς μου.*

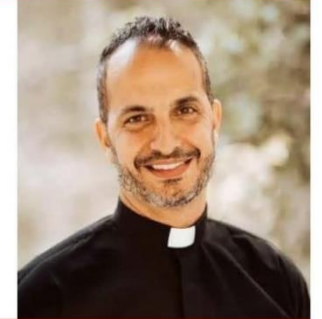
Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, ἐνδυναμοῦ ἐν τῇ χάριτι τῇ ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. Καὶ ἃ ἤκουσας παρ' ἐμοῦ διὰ πολλῶν μαρτύρων, ταῦτα παράθου πιστοῖς ἀνθρώποις, οἵτινες ἱκανοὶ ἔσονται καὶ ἑτέρους διδάσαι. Σὺ οὖν κακοπάθησον ὡς καλὸς στρατιώτης Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Οὐδεὶς στρατευόμενος ἐμπλέκεται ταῖς τοῦ βίου πραγματείαις, ἵνα τῷ στρατολογήσαντι ἀρέσῃ. Ἐὰν δὲ καὶ ἀθλή τις, οὐ στεφανοῦται ἐὰν μὴ νομίμως ἀθλήσῃ. Τὸν κοπιῶντα γεωργὸν δεῖ πρῶτον τῶν καρπῶν μεταλαμβάνειν. Νόει ἃ λέγω· δῶν γάρ σοι ὁ κύριος σύνεσιν ἐν πᾶσιν. Μνημόνευε Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἐγγεγερμένον ἐκ νεκρῶν, ἐκ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ, κατὰ τὸ εὐαγγέλιόν μου· ἐν ᾧ κακοπαθῶ μέχρι δεσμῶν, ὡς κακοῦργος· ἀλλ' ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ οὐ δέδεται. Διὰ τοῦτο πάντα ὑπομένω διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ σωτηρίας τύχωσιν τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ, μετὰ δόξης αἰωνίου.

GOSPEL READING
The Gospel According to Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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 22ND

8:30 am - 2:00 pm

7921 Old York Rd. Elkins Park, PA 19027. 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





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. 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>

CROSSROAD
CROSSROADINSTITUTE.ORG

11th & 12th Grade High School Students

**You Belong
at CrossRoad!**

Join youth from across the country to explore
your faith, purpose, and the Orthodox tradition.

10
DAYS TO
EXPLORE &
CONNECT!

LEARN MORE
AND APPLY!
CROSSROAD
qrcr.de/CR-Summer

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 8:26-39 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν, ἣτις ἐστὶν ἀντίπερα τῆς Γαλιλαίας. ἐξελθόντι δὲ αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἀνὴρ τις ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὃς εἶχε δαιμόνια ἐκ χρόνων ἱκανῶν, καὶ ἰμάτιον οὐκ ἐνεδιδύσκετο καὶ ἐν οἰκίᾳ οὐκ ἔμενεν, ἀλλ' ἐν τοῖς μνήμασιν. ἰδὼν δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἀνακράζας προσέπεσεν αὐτῷ καὶ φωνῆ μεγάλῃ εἶπε· τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ, υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου; δέομαί σου, μή με βασανίσῃς. παρήγγειλε γὰρ τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ ἐξελθεῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. πολλοῖς γὰρ χρόνοις συνηπάκει αὐτόν, καὶ ἐδεσμεῖτο ἀλύσει καὶ πέδαις φυλασσόμενος, καὶ διαρρήσων τὰ δεσμὰ ἠλαύνετο ὑπὸ τοῦ δαίμονος εἰς τὰς ἐρήμους. ἐπηρώτησε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· τί σοὶ ἐστὶν ὄνομα; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· λεγεὼν· ὅτι δαιμόνια πολλὰ εἰσῆλθον εἰς αὐτόν· καὶ παρεκάλει αὐτόν ἵνα μὴ ἐπιτάξῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον ἀπελθεῖν. ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ ἀγέλη χοίρων ἱκανῶν βοσκομένων ἐν τῷ ὄρει· καὶ παρεκάλουν αὐτόν ἵνα ἐπιτρέψῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς ἐκείνους εἰσελθεῖν· καὶ ἐπέτρεψεν αὐτοῖς. ἐξελθόντα δὲ τὰ δαιμόνια ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἰσῆλθον εἰς τοὺς χοίρους, καὶ ὥρμησεν ἡ ἀγέλη κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν λίμνην καὶ ἀπεπνίγη. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ βόσκοντες τὸ γεγενημένον ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς. ἐξῆλθον δὲ ἰδεῖν τὸ γεγονός, καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ εὖρον καθήμενον τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἀφ' οὗ τὰ δαιμόνια ἐξεληλύθει, ἰματισμένον καὶ σωφρονοῦντα παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτοῖς οἱ ἰδόντες πῶς ἐσώθη ὁ δαιμονισθεὶς. καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν ἅπαν τὸ πλῆθος τῆς περιχώρου τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν ἀπελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι φόβῳ μεγάλῳ συνέχοντο. αὐτὸς δὲ ἐμβὰς εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ὑπέστρεψεν. ἐδέετο δὲ αὐτοῦ ὁ ἀνὴρ, ἀφ' οὗ ἐξεληλύθει τὰ δαιμόνια, εἶναι σὺν αὐτῷ· ἀπέλυσε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· ὑπόστρεφε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου καὶ διηγοῦ ὅσα ἐποίησέ σοι ὁ Θεός. καὶ ἀπῆλθε καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν κηρύσσων ὅσα ἐποίησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς.

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

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:



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:



HOPE/JOY Dance Parents: Do you have children in Kindergarten – 6th 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:



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.

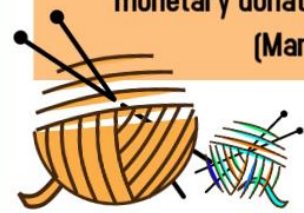
Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box for October benefit the students at Whitehall Elementary School in Norristown.

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



Made with PosterMyWall.com

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
ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου,
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,
γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου, ὡς
ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς.

Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν
ἐπιούσιον δός ἡμῖν
σήμερον καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ
ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς
ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν καὶ
μὴ εἰσενέγκης ἡμᾶς εἰς
πειρασμόν, ἀλλὰ ῥύσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ
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 Kerxhali,
orthodoxtoday.wordpress.com

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.

Join us for this year's
DVYC FALL GOYA RETREAT

Love Your Neighbor. 

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



Metropolis of New Jersey

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

email duyouthcommission@gmail.com
with any questions or concerns



Scan to register.

Support our GOYA while getting your car sparkling clean!



CAR WASH
FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26th

Immediately After Church or
During Coffee Hour in Parking Lot

SUGGESTED
DONATION \$10

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.

Free Books and Icons! A selection of books and icons, 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 and/or icons 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.

October 26, 2025

Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki



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 souls of:

- ✘ **Angela (Aggeliki) Pappas (6 months)**, beloved mother, and grandmother of Deena Pappas. May her memory be eternal.
- ✘ **George Neofotistos (3 years)**, beloved husband of Bessie Neofotistos and devoted father to Elaine (Aram) Piligian and Steven Neofotistos. He was also a loving grandfather to Aram Christopher, Georgeanne, and Thomas; **Steven Neofotistos (19 years)**, beloved son of George and Bessie and brother to Elaine. May their memory be eternal.

Artoklasia

- **Lisa & Jeff Kerns** are offering an Artoklasia for the Health and Salvation of Gabriel and Elias, and Demitrios and his family.
- **Antigoni Papanikolaou** is offering an Artoklasia for the Health and Salvation of Georgiou, Zois and family, and Aikaterini and family.

Coffee Hour: Today's coffee hour is offered by **Bessie Neofotistos** in memory of her husband George, and **Deena Pappas** in memory of her Yiayia Aggeliki Pappas.

Farewell Brunch for Fr. Symeon: The Parish Council invites parishioners to a brunch today on Fr. Symeon's final Sunday at St. Sophia before he takes on his new position as Youth Director for the Metropolis of New Jersey. Join us!

Food & Craft Fair: Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen and restaurant during the upcoming Food & Craft Fair on **Friday, November 7th through Sunday, November 9th**. IN ADDITION, we can also use help on Saturday afternoon, **November 1st, from Noon - 4pm** and **IF NECESSARY**, Monday evening, **November 3rd, from 6pm to 8pm**, to set up the hall.

Kitchen help (prep & cooking) is needed Monday through Friday from 9am to 3pm starting 10/27 (see signup), and during the entire Craft Fair weekend. 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.



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.

Coffee Hour Sponsors Needed: 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!

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sun. Oct. 26 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 6 th Sunday of Luke Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki GOYA Car Wash during coffee hour
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	3:30 pm	IOCC Banquet at Adelpia Restaurant (5:00 pm Dinner/Program)
Mon. Oct. 27 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Tues. Oct. 28 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy The Holy Protection of the Theotokos (Agia Skepi)
	7:00 pm	DVYC Meeting at St. Sophia
Thurs. Oct. 30 th	10:00 am	Senior Parea
	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Sat. Nov. 1 st	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Cosmas and Damianos the Holy Unmercenaries and their mother Theodota
	10:00 am	Kidmission at St. Demetrios Church, Upper Darby
Sun. Nov. 2 nd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 5 th Sunday of Luke Daylight Saving Time Ends
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	4:00 pm	Metropolis Ambassador Awards (The Adelpia, Deptford, NJ)
Mon. Nov. 3 rd	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Thurs. Nov. 6 th	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Fri. Nov. 7 – Sun. Nov. 9		Craft Fair & Food Festival
Sun. Nov. 9 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 7 th Sunday of Luke Last day of Craft Fair NO Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Nov. 10 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Thurs. Nov. 13 th	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Fri. Nov. 14 th		Nativity Fast Begins
Fri. Nov. 14 – Sun. Nov. 16		DVYC Fall Retreat at Innabah Camp & Retreat Center
Sat. Nov. 15 th	9:30 am	Archon Symposium – "Nicaea: Then and Now" at St. George Cathedral, Philadelphia (see flyer)
Sun. Nov. 16 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist General Assembly Meeting after Divine Liturgy
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)



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
Web: www.saintsophiachurch.org E-mail: office@saintsophiachurch.org
Rev. Fr. Symeon Williams, Proistamenos



Peter & Alice Zavitsanos Scholarship 2025

St. Sophia is pleased to announce that thanks to a generous sponsorship, we are able to offer a \$4,000 scholarship to eligible college or university students.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be registered in an accredited college or university in undergraduate, graduate, or professional programs
- Achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher
- Be a Steward in good standing of St. Sophia Church
- Submit an essay of 1000 words or less on “How the Greek Orthodox Faith has influenced my life and plans for the future.”
- Submit a resume outlining all church, community, service, and athletic activities
- Submit a statement of financial need if you wish that to be considered as part of the application
- Submit the name and mailing address of your university bursar

Application materials should be in MS Word format, labeled with name and contact information, and emailed to Fr. Symeon Williams at frsymeonwilliams@gmail.com.

Deadline for submissions is December 1, 2025



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

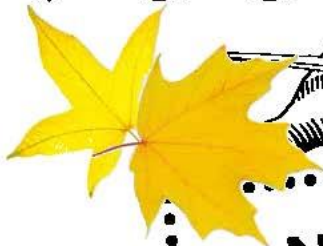


Contact Alex Poloway for more information:
ahpoloway@gmail.com

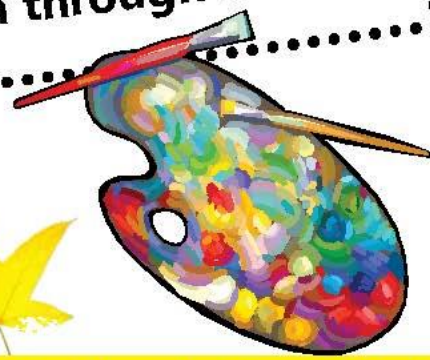
ST. SOPHIA GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH



FOOD & CRAFT FAIR

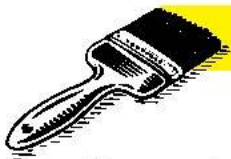


Nov. 7 – Nov. 9, 2025
Open from Lunch through Dinner!!



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 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

Ladies Philoptochos of St. Sophia

Tradition of the *New Year*

VASILOPITA
St. Basil's Bread

Pick up
Sunday
December 21
Must Pre-order
by: 12/14/25

Giving

St. Basil the Great,
the father of
Philanthropy

Luck

Blessings for the
new year to those
who find the coin

Complete the form and return with check payment to: St. Sophia Philoptochos, 900 S. Trooper Road, Jeffersonville, PA 19403.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
QUANTITY _____ @ \$20 each TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

St. Sophia, SS Faith, Hope & Agape Greek Orthodox Church 2025 Stewardship Listing as of 10/24/25

So far, 205 stewarding families have pledged for 2025, and our total pledges have reached \$308,940. To date we have received \$262,315.

If your name does not appear on the 2025 Stewardship Listing, we request that you complete a 2025 Stewardship Commitment Form.

If you have not yet finished paying your 2025 pledge, please do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please see Tom Cox or call the Parish Office.

Anonymous	Mrs. Marie A. DeViscio	Mr. & Mrs. Harry & Alexandra Hatzipavlidis	Ms. Evangelia Klapakis
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher & Tori Altum	Mrs. Iris Demas	Miss Maria Hatzipavlidis	Mr. & Mrs. George & Dimitra Klapakis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick & Maria Argyropoulos	Miss Tina Demopolis	Mr. Thomas Hatzipavlidis	Mr. David Klein & Mrs. Kristen Tripolitis
Mr. & Mrs. Don & Helen Avgerinos	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel & Cynthia Diccianni	Mr. & Mrs. Garry & Donna Holstein	Mr. & Mrs. Bart & Lucy Kline
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick & Christine Bailey	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony & Joanne Dimitriadis	Ms. Konstantina Hronis	Mr. & Mrs. Leonidas & Bonnie Koletas
Mr. Tyler Ball	Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Evelyn Downs	Mr. Antaun Johnson	Mrs. Despina Kourtidis
Dr. & Mrs. Angelos & Alexandra Ballas	Mr. & Mrs. Stephen & Vicki Dowzicky	Ms. Carla Johnson	Mrs. Evangelia Kourtidis
Mr. & Mrs. Matt & Joann Bannon	Mr. Athanasios Evagelou & Ms. Nicole Reffner	Mr. & Mrs. Anestis & Sofia Kalderemtzis	Mr. Kiriakos Kourtidis
Mr. Roy Baulch	Ms. Eleni Evangelopoulos	Mr. Evan Kaloudis & Mrs. Erica Rudzinski	Mr. & Mrs. Eleftherios & Gilda Koutsouroumbas
Ms. Xanthi Bavas	Mr. & Mrs. George & Olympia Evangelopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Alexander & Patricia Kamaratos	Dr. Dina Kritikos-Karalis
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen & Patricia Bell	Mr. & Mrs. David & Katia Elena Figueroa	Mr. & Mrs. Alex & Lauren Kanakis	Mr. Chris Lafakis & Mrs. Despina Raggousis
Mr. & Mrs. Engelos & Eliana Bellos	Mr. & Mrs. Mark & Lesa Finn	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew & Georgiana Kane	Mr. George Lambros
Mrs. Evangelia Bragitikos	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Ephrem & Helen Fitzgerald	Mr. & Mrs. Christos & Barbara Karagiannopoulos	Mr. & Mrs. Dean & Nina Laskaris
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Nicole Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Kosmas & Erietta Fotiadis	Mr. & Mrs. George & Kleanthi Karagounis	Mr. William Laskaris
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent & Sophia Caliendo	Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Carole Georgopoulos	Mr. Artie Karalis & Miss Stephanie Everly	Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis & Angeliki Lathiris
Mr. & Mrs. James & Mary Caravoulas	Mr. & Mrs. Nick & Anastasia Gianginis	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios & Jean Karalis	Ms. Vicky Lathiris
Mr. & Mrs. Elias & Donna Christou	Miss Courtney Good	Mr. George Karalis	Mrs. Varcia Leondis
Mr. & Mrs. James & Angela Clark	Mr. & Mrs. William & Marina Good	Miss Xena Karalis	Mrs. Effie Liacouras
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur & Christina Collias	Mr. & Mrs. Andrew & Christina Guano	Mrs. Rochelle Karistinos	Mr. Nicholas Liantis
Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Theresa Colyvas	Mr. & Mrs. Art & Peggy Happas	Ms. Georgia Katsafanas	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony C. & Kathryn Limberakis
Mr. & Mrs. Ryan & Alexandra Conlon	Mr. Christopher Hatzipavlidis	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Stavroula Kelser	Drs. Anthony & Maria Limberakis
Mr. & Mrs. George & Tina Coutavas	Mr. Costas Hatzipavlidis	Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey K. & Lisa M. Kerns	Dr. & Mrs. Cary & Alexis Limberakis
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Catherine Cox		Miss Camille Khalifa	
Miss Eleni Davillas		Mrs. Stephanie King	
Mr. & Mrs. Paul & Georgia DeLomba			

Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Lea Lindsey
Mr. & Mrs. Russell & Teresa LoGiudice
Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros & Megan Lousos
Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Francine Lowry
Mr. & Mrs. Harry & Carolyn Mackrides
 Mr. William Mackrides
Mr. Monther Madanat & Mrs. Tanya
 Massadeh
Mrs. Irene Malagari
Mr. George Malle
Miss Callie McAdoo
Mr. & Mrs. Edward & Mary McAdoo
Mr. Samuel McAdoo
Mr. Shaun McElhinney
Mrs. Tabatha McElhinney
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Barbara Migdalias
Mr. & Mrs. Kostandinos & Marina Misiriotis
Mr. & Mrs. Kyriakos & Maria Mitses
Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Coleen Moses
Mrs. Mary Moukoulis
Mrs. Pelagia Mylonas
Mrs. Bessie Neofotistos
Miss Katherine Neystel
Hon. & Mrs. William & Catherine Nicholas
Mr. & Dr. Alexander & Marianne Nikas
Mr. Nicholas Nikas
Mr. George Nikolaou
Mr. & Mrs. Serafim & Despina Notaras
Mr. Thomas A. Novitski, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. George & Danielle Pahomov
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony & Katherine
 Pantazopoulos
Mr. Harry Papadakes

Ms. Sophia Papadakes-Frangakis
Mr. & Mrs. John & Maria Papadimitriou
Mrs. Afthentia Papadopoulos
Ms. Elizabeth Papadopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios & Christine
 Pappanastasiou
Mr. & Mrs. George & Maria Pappas
Mrs. Maria Pappas
Mr. George Pashardis
Dr. & Mrs. Peter & Phyllis Patukas
Mr. & Mrs. Chris & Angelina Pavlou
Dr. & Mrs. James & Joanna Peoples
Mrs. Vangjelica Perillo
Mr. & Mrs. Aram & Elaine Piligian, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John & Lynn Pogas
Mr. & Mrs. David & Flora Poloway
Mrs. Nazlou Poursanidis
Mr. George Prieston
Mr. & Mrs. George & Nancy Reganis
Miss Alexia Richie
Mr. Lukas Richie
Mr. & Mrs. Rami & Maria Richie
Mr. John Rodakis
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff & Georgia Ruser
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Anne Sabia, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. John G. & Christine P. Samaras
Mr. & Mrs. Constantine & Effie Samios
Mr. & Mrs. George P. & Nicole Sarianos
Mr. & Mrs. Kosta & Kelly Sarianos
Mr. & Mrs. Marcus & Denise Siniari
Mrs. Martha Sinis
Mr. & Mrs. Sam & Ana Sinoimeri
Mr. & Mrs. Ari & Yasmine Sitaras

Mr. Konstantinos Sitsis
Drs. Charalambos Solomides & Melpo
 Christofidou-Solomidou
Miss Maria Solomidou
Mr. & Mrs. Georgios & Irene Spyropoulos
Mr. Dustin Stanford
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Melissa Stolarczyk
Mr. & Mrs. John & Fotini Stratis
Mrs. Lambrine Svokos
Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Elyse Swope
Mr. & Mrs. Keith & Maria Swope
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios & Sofia Tatsis
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence & Alexandra
 Tavlarides
Mr. & Mrs. Ilias & Susan Thomloudis
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur & Debora Topoulos
Mr. & Mrs. Colin & Sophia Treat
Mr. & Mrs. John & Karen Tripolitis
Ms. Linda Tripolitis
Mrs. Shirley E. Tripolitis
Mr. & Mrs. Nikolaos & Eleni Trontsios
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Mary Beth Tsikalas
Mr. & Mrs. K. Stephen & Lauren Tsingas
Mr. & Mrs. Alex & Deanna Tsioulfaidis
Mr. & Mrs. Elias & Paraskevi Tsipras
Ms. Katherine Tsipras
Mr. & Mrs. Seraphim & Patricia Tsipras
Mr. & Mrs. Socratis & Ekaterini Tsipras
Mrs. Irene Tsokas
Mr. Nikolaos Tsouros
Mr. Anastasios Tzivekis
Mr. & Mrs. Christodoulos & Aglaia Tzivekis
Mrs. Sofia Tzivekis

Miss Leanna Usnik & Mr. Aristotel Moumas
Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis & Bella Vadarlis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Katherine Vail
Mr. & Mrs. Nikolaos & Dawn Valavanis
Mr. Vlassis Vasiliadis
Mr. & Mrs. Nick & Pam Volakis
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios & Anastasia Voutsinas
Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Constance Walsh
Mr. Robert Watts
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Maria Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Roger & Alexis Witt
Mrs. Ita Zaferes
Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Catherine Zarcone
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Kari Zarynow
Dr. & Mrs. George & Hope Zavitsanos
Dr. & Mrs. Peter & Alice Zavitsanos
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas & Ann Zavitsanos
Mr. Constantine Zouboulides





**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 491/2025

Archepiscopal Encyclical for National Leadership 100 Sunday

October 26, 2025

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, Presvyteres and Diakonisses, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Sacred Archdiocese of America:

Ὅπου γάρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρὸς ὑμῶν, ἐκεῖ ἔσται καὶ ἡ καρδιά ὑμῶν.

(κατὰ Ματθαῖον 6:21)

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(Matthew 6:21)

Beloved sisters and brothers in the Lord,

This Sunday, when we celebrate the Holy Great-Martyr and Myrrh-Streamer Demetrios, we also pause to remember the extraordinary contributions to the life of our Church of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Fund. After all, the ever-memorable Archbishop Iakovos' baptismal name was "Demetrios." Therefore, there is a certain auspiciousness in the proximity of the Feasts of both the Great-Martyr and the Brother of God, whose own celebration falls on October 23.

Leadership 100, which was the vision of Archbishop Iakovos, is one of his most enduring legacies. Especially in this Twentieth Year since his repose in the Lord, we celebrate Leadership 100 as a prime example of how our stewardship of material things reveals the core of our spiritual priorities. As the Lord said so simply and beautifully: *For*

where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The Members of Leadership 100 have — in so many cases — led the way in the propagation and increase of *diakonia* throughout our Sacred Archdiocese of America. And this is because they see with the same vision that inspired Archbishop Iakovos, a dream for an Archdiocese with National Ministries, which meets the needs and aspirations of its Faithful.

Therefore, on this Sunday, when we celebrate with thanksgiving and recognize the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Fund, let us all take inspiration from their exemplary labors on behalf of our Church. They have given from the abundance with which God has blessed them, and which they have achieved by their own diligence and industry. Let us thank them and follow their example by laying up treasure in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust corrupt, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where our treasure is, there will our hearts be as well, unto the ages of ages. Amen!

With much paternal love in our Lord,



† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



**ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ
ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ**

Αριθμ. Πρωτ.: 491/2025

**Αρχιεπισκοπική Έγκύκλιος
για την Κυριακή αφιερωμένη στην Ήγεςία τῶν 100.**

26 Ὀκτωβρίου 2025

Πρὸς τοὺς Σεβασμιωτάτους καὶ Θεοφιλεστάτους Ἀρχιερεῖς, τοὺς Εὐλαβεστάτους Ἱερεῖς καὶ Διακόνους, τὶς Πρεσβυτέρους καὶ τὶς Διακόνισσες, τοὺς Μοναχοὺς καὶ τὶς Μοναχές, τοὺς Προέδρους καὶ τὰ Μέλη τῶν Κοινοτικῶν Συμβουλίων, τοὺς Ἐντιμολογιωτάτους Ἄρχοντες τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, τὰ μέλη τῆς Ἁγείας τῶν 100, τὰ Ἡμερήσια καὶ Απογευματινὰ Σχολεῖα, τὶς Φιλοπτώχους Ἀδελφότητες, τὴ Νεολαία, τὶς Ἑλληνορθόδοξες Ὄργανώσεις καὶ ὁλόκληρο τὸ Χριστεπώνυμο πλήρωμα τῆς Ἱερᾶς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς.

**«Ὅπου γάρ ἐστιν ὁ θησαυρὸς ὑμῶν, ἐκεῖ ἔσται καὶ ἡ καρδία ὑμῶν»
(Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 6:21).**

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

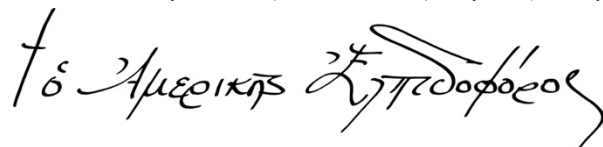
Τὴ σημερινὴ Κυριακὴ, κατὰ τὴν ὁποία ἐορτάζουμε τὸν Ἅγιο Μεγαλομάρτυρα καὶ Δημήτριον τὸν Μυροβλύτη, στρέφουμε τὴν προσοχή μας στὴν ἐξαιρετικὴ συμβολὴ τοῦ Ταμείου τῆς «Ἁγείας τῶν 100» στὴ ζωὴ καὶ στὴ διακονία τῆς Ἐκκλησίας μας. Ὅχι τυχαῖα, τὸ βαπτιστικὸ ὄνομα τοῦ μακαριστοῦ Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Ἰακώβου, τοῦ ὄραματιστῆ καὶ ἰδρυτῆ τοῦ ἐν λόγῳ Ταμείου, ἦταν Δημήτριος! Ἔτσι, ἡ ἡμέρα τῆς

έορτῆς τοῦ Μεγαλομάρτυρος βρίσκεται πλησίον τῆς έορτῆς τοῦ Ἀδελφοθέου, στίς 23 Ὀκτωβρίου έκάστου έτους.

Ἡ «Ἠγεσία τῶν 100», καρπός τοῦ οράματος τοῦ διορατικοῦ Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Ἰακώβου, ἀποτελεῖ μία έκ τῶν πλέον μακροχρόνιων καί ζωντανῶν παρακαταθηκῶν του. Καί ιδίως τὸ τρέχον έτος, πού εἶναι τὸ εἰκοστό ἀπό τήν έν Κυρίῳ κοίμησή του, τιμοῦμε τήν «Ἠγεσία τῶν 100» ὡς λαμπρὸ παράδειγμα τρόπου διαχείρισης τῶν ὑλικῶν ἀγαθῶν, ἀποκαλύπτοντας τὸ βάθος καί τήν ποιότητα τῶν πνευματικῶν μας προτεραιοτήτων. Ὁ λόγος τοῦ Κυρίου ἀντηχεῖ σαφῶς: «Ὅπου γάρ έστιν ὁ θησαυρός ὑμῶν, ἐκεῖ έσται καί ἡ καρδιά ὑμῶν». Τὰ μέλη τῆς «Ἠγεσίας τῶν 100» ἀποδεικνύουν πάλιν καί πολλάκις ὅτι ἡ καρδιά τους εἶναι πλήρως ἀφοσιωμένη στή διακονία τοῦ πληρώματος τῆς Ἱεράς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς. Μὲ τή συνεχῆ ὑποστήριξη πρὸς τήν Ἀρχιεπισκοπή μας, ἀναζωογονοῦν καί έμπνέουν ὅλο τὸ σῶμα τῆς Ἐκκλησίας, διότι καλλιεργοῦν τὸ ἴδιο ὄραμα, πού έμπνεύστηκε ὁ Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος Ἰάκωβος γιά μία Ἀρχιεπισκοπή μὲ τμήματα διακονίας πού καλύπτουν τίς ἀνάγκες καί τίς ἀνησυχίες ὅλων τῶν πιστῶν.

Ἐπομένως, τήν Κυριακή αὐτή, κατὰ τήν ὁποία πανηγυρικά έορτάζουμε τήν Ἠγεσία τῶν 100, ἄς πάρουμε ὅλοι σάν παράδειγμα τήν εὐγενῆ καί ένθουσιώδη διακονία τῶν μελῶν της, διότι πάντοτε προσφέρουν ἀπό τήν ἀφθονία μὲ τήν ὁποία ὁ Θεός τοὺς εὐλόγησε, μετὰ ἀπό τήν έργασία καί τὸ μόχθο τους. Ἄς τοὺς εὐχαριστήσουμε, λοιπόν, έκ βάθους ψυχῆς καί ἄς μιμηθοῦμε τὸ παράδειγμά τους, «θησαυρίζοντες έν οὐρανοῖς, ὅπου μήτε σῆς μήτε βρωσῖς ἀφανίζει, καί ὅπου κλέπται οὐ διορύσσουσιν οὐδὲ κλέπτουσιν». Διότι ὅπου βρίσκεται ὁ θησαυρός μας, ἐκεῖ βρίσκεται καί ἡ καρδιά μας, εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰῶνων. Ἀμήν!

Μετὰ πολλῆς έν Χριστῶ πατρικῆς ἀγάπης,



† ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος,