

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>

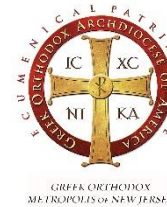
PLEASE keep in mind that our fixed costs are still ever present. We hope you can help us with an online donation. You can give by going to our website, www.saintsophiachurch.org and clicking on the "Donate" button.

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. Konstantinos Loukas
Proistamenos**

December 7, 2025
8:45 am Orthros
10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Today is a Fast Day (Fish Allowed) | Fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs.

10th Sunday of Luke
Ambrose, Bishop of Milan
Athenodoros the Martyr of Mesopotamia
Righteous Father Gerasimus, Ascetic of Euboa



**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. Konstantinos Loukas, Proistamenos
frkonstantinos@saintsophiachurch.org
Metropolis of New Jersey



December 7, 2025

ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion – Tou Lithou Sfrayisthentos (“The Stone Had Been Sealed”)

The Jews had sealed the stone that was set before Your Tomb and around Your Grave soldiers guarded Your Pure and Sacred Body, yet Savior You arose the third day and granted to the world Your gift of Life. For this do the powers of Heaven acclaim You the Life bestower. Glory to Your Resurrection and glory to Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, O only Friend of man.

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 ἡ δύτατον, τοὺς τῆς νηδύος σου βλαστούς, δι’ α γώνων 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 – I Parthenos simeron ton proeonion Loghon (“On this day the Virgin Maid”)

*On this day the Virgin Maid * goes to the grotto to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. * Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God.*



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

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.



Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-19

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 5:8-19 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

***Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν.
Στίχ. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ.***

Ἀδελφοί, ὡς τέκνα φωτὸς περιπατεῖτε - ὁ γὰρ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματος ἐν πάσῃ ἀγαθωσύνῃ καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ - δοκιμάζοντες τί ἐστὶν εὐάρεστον τῷ κυρίῳ· καὶ μὴ συγκοινωνεῖτε τοῖς ἔργοις τοῖς ἀκάρποις τοῦ σκοτοῦς, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐλέγχετε· τὰ γὰρ κρυφῆ γινόμενα ὑπ' αὐτῶν αἰσχρὸν ἐστὶν καὶ λέγειν. Τὰ δὲ πάντα ἐλεγχόμενα ὑπὸ τοῦ φωτὸς φανεροῦνται· πᾶν γὰρ τὸ φανερούμενον φῶς ἐστίν. Διὸ λέγει, "Ἐγειρε ὁ καθεύδων καὶ ἀνάστα ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, καὶ ἐπιφαύσει σοὶ ὁ Χριστός. Βλέπετε οὖν πῶς ἀκριβῶς περιπατεῖτε, μὴ ὡς ἄσοφοι, ἀλλ' ὡς σοφοί, ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρὸν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραὶ εἰσιν. Διὰ τοῦτο μὴ γίνεσθε ἄφρονες, ἀλλὰ συνιέντες τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ κυρίου. Καὶ μὴ μεθύσκεσθε οἴνῳ, ἐν ᾧ ἐστὶν ἀσωτία, ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν πνεύματι, λαλοῦντες ἑαυτοῖς ψαλμοῖς καὶ ὕμνοις καὶ ᾠδαῖς πνευματικαῖς, ᾄδοντες καὶ ψάλλοντες ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ ὑμῶν τῷ κυρίῳ.

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel According to Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 13:10-17 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, Ἦν δὲ διδάσκων ἐν μιᾷ τῶν συναγωγῶν ἐν τοῖς σάββασι. καὶ ἰδοὺ γυνὴ ἦν πνεῦμα ἔχουσα ἀσθενείας ἔτη δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ, καὶ ἦν συγκύπτουσα καὶ μὴ δυναμένη ἀνακῦσαι εἰς τὸ παντελές. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτὴν ὁ Ἰησοῦς προσεφώνησε καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· γύναι, ἀπολέλυσαι τῆς ἀσθενείας σου· καὶ ἐπέθηκεν αὐτῇ τὰς χεῖρας· καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνωρθώθη καὶ ἐδόξαζε τὸν Θεόν. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ ἀρχισυνάγωγος, ἀγανακτῶν ὅτι τῷ σαββάτῳ ἐθεράπευσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, ἔλεγε τῷ ὄχλῳ· ἕξ ἡμέραι εἰσὶν ἐν αἷς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι· ἐν ταύταις οὖν ἐρχόμενοι θεραπεύεσθε, καὶ μὴ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου. ἀπεκρίθη οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Κύριος καὶ εἶπεν· ὑποκριτά, ἕκαστος ὑμῶν τῷ σαββάτῳ οὐ λύει τὸν βοῦν αὐτοῦ ἢ τὸν ὄνον ἀπὸ τῆς φάτνης καὶ ἀπαγαγὼν ποτίζει; ταύτην δὲ, θυγατέρα Ἀβραὰμ οὖσαν, ἣν ἔδησεν ὁ σατανᾶς ἰδοὺ δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ ἔτη, οὐκ ἔδει λυθῆναι ἀπὸ τοῦ δεσμοῦ τούτου τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου; καὶ ταῦτα λέγοντος αὐτοῦ κατησχύνοντο πάντες οἱ ἀντικείμενοι αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος ἔχαιρεν ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐνδόξοις τοῖς γινομένοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

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

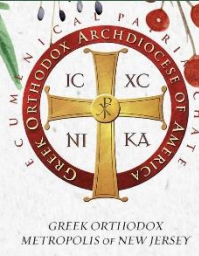
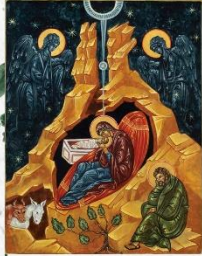


HOPE/JOY Dance Parents: Do you have children in Kindergarten – 6th grade who would like to learn to dance Greek dances? Wondering when practice or performances take place? Please join our BAND App for communications, events, calendar, and more...

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

ST. SOPHIA HOPE/JOY DANCE GROUP BAND





His Eminence

Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

*Cordially invites all of the clergy
and the beloved faithful to the*

**ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING &
OPEN HOUSE**

on Thursday, December 18, 2025

6:00-9:00pm

at the

Metropolis Headquarters

215 E. Grove Street

Westfield, NJ 07090

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
ἁγιασθήτω 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
μῆ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς
πειρασμόν, ἀλλά ῥῦσαι 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

St. Sophia's Angel Tree



Pajamas for Mamas Collection Drive Help Bring Joy to Mothers This Christmas!

Join us in our heartfelt mission to make this Christmas extra special for mothers in our community. We are collecting **wrapped** pajama gifts to be donated to a local food community bank, where children will have the wonderful opportunity to pick out a present to give to their mothers.

How You Can Help

- Donate **Wrapped** Pajamas: All sizes are needed, especially large and extra-large. Please ensure each gift is wrapped and includes a tag with the size labeled.
- All donations should be brought back to church by **Sunday, December 21st** and left under the Christmas Tree in the Cultural Center

Your contribution will bring immense joy to both mothers and their children. The kids get very excited to pick out a present for their mothers, and your donation will make that moment possible. Imagine the smiles and warmth your gift will bring to a family in need this holiday season!

Any questions please contact Marina Good at mdgood05@gmail.com or call/text 484-431-6149.

Thank You!

Thank you for your generosity and kindness. Together, we can make this Christmas a magical time for mothers and their children in our community.

December 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 to the Philoptochos Poor Box during the month of December will benefit the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry in Collegeville (www.dailybreadcommunityfoodpantry.org) Their mission is to eliminate hunger in the Perkiomen area by providing residents in need with programs that provide food, promote the value of nutrition, increase self-sufficiency, and instill hope.

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!

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.

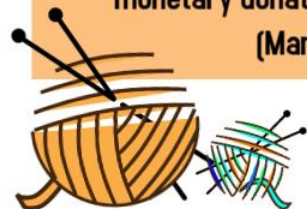
Master Who loves mankind, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my judgment because I am unworthy, but rather for the purification and sanctification of both soul and body and the pledge of the life and Kingdom to come. It is good for me to cleave unto God and to place in Him the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

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



December 7, 2025



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.***

40-day Baby Blessing: Mr. & Mrs. Alex and Megan Lousos present their first child, a boy, for the traditional 40-day baby blessing. May God bless **Demetrios Michael** and his parents!

AHEPA Track Meet Trophies: AHEPA Chapter 445 "Thermopylae" of Upper Darby will present trophies to our parishioners who participated in the AHEPA Pan-Hellenic Track and Field Meet, which was held on Saturday, May 3, 2025. The presentation will take place in the Fr. John A. Limberakis Cultural Center during coffee hour.

Coffee Hour: Thank you to AHEPA Chapter 445 "Thermopylae" for offering today's coffee hour.

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.

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!

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM
The Christmas Story Pageant & Parish Sing-Along

Join us Sunday, December 21st
for a joyful celebration of the Christmas story,
featuring our parish children, choir,
and community sing-along!

Sign up child(ren) by December 5th to participate. <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignup/10C0B4DABA22A1FBC52-60740943-christmas>

St. Sophia Youth Ministries

NATIVITY FOOD DRIVE
THE GIFT OF FOOD TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE

To benefit The Daily Bread Community Food Pantry in Collegeville

NOV 15, 2025 - JAN 6, 2026

ACCEPTING UNEXPIRED CANNED AND NON-PERISHABLE FOODS OR
DONATE USING VENMO (ENTER "YM NATIVITY FOOD DRIVE" IN MEMO)
DONATION DROP-OFF IN LOBBY OF FR. JOHN A. LIMBERAKIS CULTURAL CENTER

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Services for Christmas

Christmas Eve Morning – Wednesday, 12/24/25
8:00 am Orthros; Great Hours
10:00 am Great Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Christmas Eve Evening – Wednesday, 12/24/25
6:00 pm Orthros
7:00 pm Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
followed by the singing of Kalandá

Christmas Day, Thursday, 12/25/25
Merry Christmas! - Καλά Χριστούγεννα!
No Services Today

Sunday, 12/28/25
Sunday after Nativity
8:45 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
No Sunday school; No Greek school

Services for New Year's & Theophany

New Year's Day, Wednesday, 1/1/26
Happy New Year! - Καλή πρωτοχρονιά!
Feast of St. Basil the Great
8:45 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Sunday, 1/4/26
Sunday before Theophany
8:45 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Monday, 1/5/26 – Eve of Theophany
8:00 am Orthros; Great Hours
10:00 am Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Great Agiasmos

Tuesday, 1/6/26 – Holy Theophany
8:45 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Great Agiasmos
Blessing of the Schuylkill River
(at Betzwood Park), weather permitting

Wednesday, 1/7/26
Synaxis of St. John the Baptist
8:45 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Blessing of the Homes at Theophany

If you wish to have your homes and/or businesses blessed after the Feast of Theophany, please contact the Parish office **beginning January 8th** to schedule a visitation.

Mortgage Reduction Campaign: As of November 1, 2025, our mortgage balance is **\$238,775.46**. 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.

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!**

Parish Council Elections: This year's Parish Council Elections will take place on **Sunday, December 14th**. We have an **uncontested** election; meaning, we have the same number of candidates for the same number of available positions. There are 6 incumbent candidates running for 6 positions. The candidates are **Chris Altum, Lucy Pappas Kline, John Papadimitriou, John Pogas, David Poloway, and Nikolaos Tsouros**.

The 2025 Election Guide is available at the Pangari. It was also emailed to parishioners this past Friday. The Election Guide contains a brief profile for each candidate and is a great way to "put a face with a name" if you are not familiar with the candidates.

Voting in the Elections: Please note that to vote in the Parish Council Elections, you must have returned a 2025 Stewardship Commitment Form and be current in your commitment. Stewardship Commitment Forms can be found at the Pangari or on the table outside of the Parish office. In addition, when paying by check, it is imperative that you indicate "**Stewardship 2025**" on the memo line so that your account is properly credited. Also, if you make cash donations, please be sure to include your name either on the outside of the envelope or on a slip of paper attached to the cash. Should you have any questions, please see Tom Cox, our stewardship chairperson, or contact the Parish office.



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!

The application deadline is 1/31/2026.

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/105586-Pan-Hellenic-Scholarship-Foundation>

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Fri. Dec. 5 th	6:00 pm	AT ST. NICHOLAS G.O. CHURCH, ATLANTIC CITY, NJ Great Vespers for Feast of St. Nicholas the Great
Sat. Dec. 6 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy St. Nicholas the Great
	11:30 am	HOPE/JOY St. Nicholas Day Celebration & Caroling (following Liturgy)
	9:30 am	GOYA Nativity Retreat at St. Thomas, Cherry Hill, NJ
Sun. Dec. 7 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 10 th Sunday of Luke
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Dec. 8 th	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Tues. Dec. 9 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Conception by St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos
Thurs. Dec. 11 th	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Fri. Dec. 12 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Spyridon the Wonderworker of Trymithous
Sun. Dec. 14 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 11 th Sunday of Luke Christmas Pageant rehearsal during Sunday School Parish Council Elections in the Cultural Center after Liturgy
	12:30 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Mon. Dec. 15 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Eleutherios the Holy Martyr, Bishop Illyria and his mother Anthia
	4:45 pm	Little Angels
	5:00 pm	Greek School (Children)
Thurs. Dec. 18 th	6:00 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	6:00 pm	Annual Christmas Tree Lighting & Open House at the Metropolis Headquarters, Westfield, NJ (6pm – 9pm)
Fri. Dec. 19 th	5:30 pm	Final Christmas Pageant rehearsal in the church
	6:30 pm	HOPE/JOY Dinner & Game Night with Fr. Konstantinos
Sat. Dec. 20 th	5:00 pm	Vespers
Sun. Dec. 21 st	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday before Nativity Christmas Pageant followed by Youth Ministries Christmas Party
Sun. Dec. 21, 2025 through Sun. Jan. 4, 2026		No Greek School – Christmas/New Year's Recess

Christmas, New Year's and Theophany services are listed on a separate schedule

Sun. Dec. 28 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday after Nativity No Sunday School
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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: \$ _____