

**GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY
ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

WEEKLY BULLETIN

256 South 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

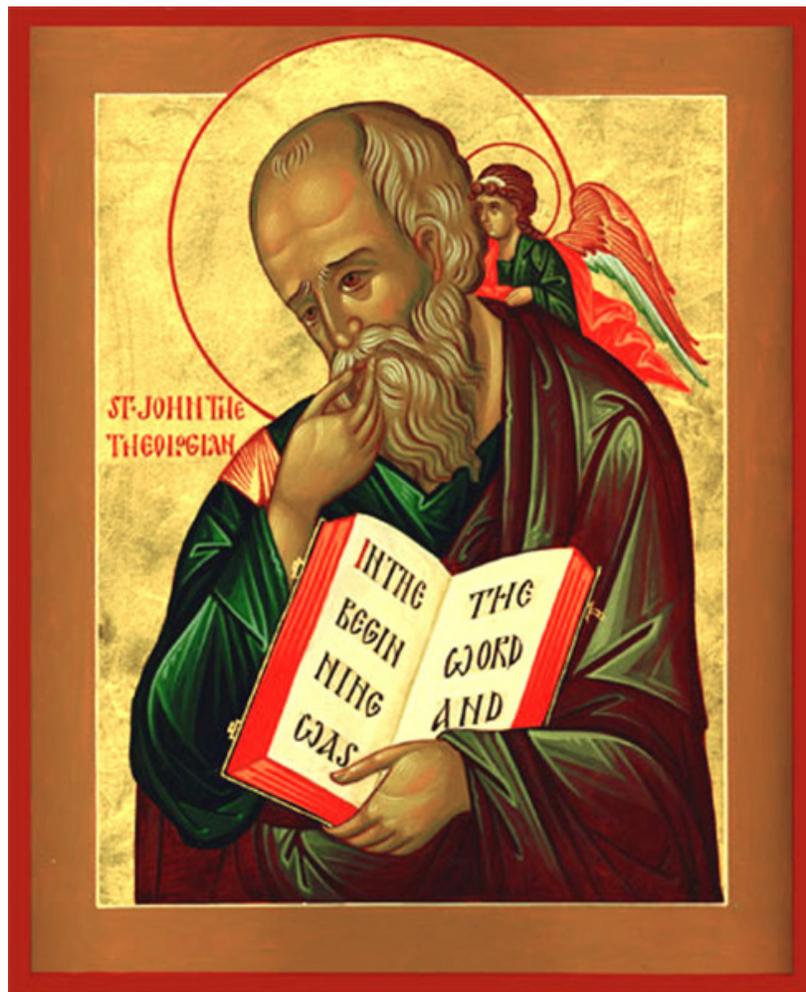
Phone: 215-627-4389

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Email: office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

Web: www.saintgeorgecathedral.org

**Very Reverend Archimandrite Ambrose Bitziadis-Bowers
Presiding Priest**



Today is: Sunday, September 26, 2021

**THE FALLING ASLEEP OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND
THEOLOGIAN**

***Thank you for worshiping at St. George Greek
Orthodox Cathedral in Philadelphia.***

The work of the Cathedral in service to the Eastern Orthodox faithful and predominately the Greek Orthodox faithful to the city of Philadelphia is made possible entirely through private support. The gifts of people from across the country are behind every worship service, public ministry and the work of maintaining this historic landmark. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Visit: www.stgeorgecathedral.org to sign up for our weekly newsletter. You can also make a gift to help keep the Cathedral strong -- either as the plate is passed or by using our online giving program.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your presence with us today has been a blessing.

Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral,

Whether you are a returning Greek Orthodox to our legendary St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, a newcomer to Philadelphia or the Greater Delaware Valley, or someone with an emerging interest in the Orthodox Faith, I, the Parish Council and all the parishioners and families of St. George Cathedral welcome you to our home where we have been serving for close to 100 years. Since the days of the first D. Liturgy back in 1912 in the original church and continuing through the current St. George Cathedral, the people of Orthodox faith have gathered together for prayer, faith foundation, worship, service to the poor and fellowship. As a parish community, some of our proudest moments come through the children served through our Religious Education and Greek School programs creating the next generation of Orthodox to serve here locally and to share the message of Christ throughout the world.

Our schools commit to teach as Jesus did; instilling a love of our Orthodox faith and love of neighbor. St. George Cathedral Religious and Greek Schools create a caring, respectful environment which promote the learning of language, history and tradition and religion, and develop faithful Christians and responsible citizens. The schools strive to reach each child through an engaging environment filled with hands on teaching and a true compassion for sacred life. Instilling a love for God, the teachings of Jesus and a true passion for learning are the most important lessons we can share with our children.

I ask that you go to the website of the Cathedral at: <https://www.saintgeorgecathedral.org/language.html> for the Greek School and: <https://www.saintgeorgecathedral.org/education.html> for the Religious Education School for an opportunity to learn more about our Cathedral Schools. Please contact the Principles of the Religious Education School, Eleni Belisonzi at: ebelisonzi@gmail.com and Agnes Zidros, the Directors of the Greek School at: Saintgeorgeagnes@verizon.net or for both the office of the Cathedral at: 215-627-4389 for more information, or to arrange a tour. They look forward to hearing from you!

I certainly hope you will acquaint yourself with what our schools have to offer by exploring our website and find something that interests you as well as encourage you to become an active member of St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, or any other member of the parish staff, by calling the Parish Office at (215-627-4389) or office@stgeorgecathedral.org.

God Bless you all,



Very Reverend Archimandrite Ambrose Bitziadis Bowers
Dean of the Cathedral

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

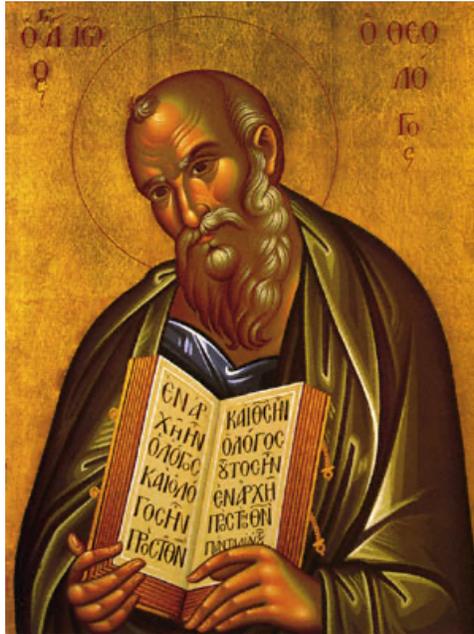
- TODAY** **SUNDAY OF THE FALLING ASLEEP OF ST. JOHN
THE THEOLOGIAN AND EVANGELIST**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Oct. 3** **2nd SUNDAY OF LUKE**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Oct. 10** **3RD SUNDAY OF LUKE**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Oct. 17** **4TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Wend., Oct. 20** **St. Gerasimos from Cephalonia**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Oct. 24** **6TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Tues., Oct. 26** **St. Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Oct. 31** **5TH SUNDAY OF LUKE**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΚΟΝ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

- ΣΗΜΕΡΟΝ** **ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΚΑΙ
ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 3 Ὀκτ.** **ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 10 Ὀκτ.** **ΤΡΙΤΗ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 17 Ὀκτ.** **ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Τετ., 20 Ὀκτ.** **Ἁγίου Γερασίμου τοῦ ἀπὸ Κεφαλληνίας**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 24 Ὀκτ.** **ΕΚΤΗ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Τρίτ., 26 Ὀκτ.** **Ἁγίου Δημητρίου του Μυροβλήτου**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 31 Ὀκτ.** **ΠΕΜΠΤΗ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΛΟΥΚΑ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Tues., Oct. 5** **Parish Council meeting**
@ the Cathedral Office @ 6:30pm
- Oct. 23-Nov. 3** **Apostolic Visit of His All-Holiness**
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in
the USA
- Nov. 2** **Thyranixia (Opening of the Doors) from**
His All-Holiness The Ecumenical
Patriarch Bartholomew of St. Nicholas
Greek Orthodox Church and National
Shrine in Manhattan, NY



The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian

This Apostle was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and was the son of Zebedee and Salome, and the brother of James the elder. First a fisherman by trade, he became an Apostle and the beloved Disciple of Christ. Only he of all the Disciples followed Him even to the Cross, and was entrusted with the care of our Saviour's Mother, as it were another son to her, and a brother of Christ the Teacher. After this, he preached throughout Asia Minor, especially in Ephesus. When the second persecution against the Christians began in the year 96 during the reign of Domitian, he was taken in bonds to Rome, and there was cast into a vat filled to the brim with boiling oil. Coming forth therefrom unharmed, he was exiled to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation. Returning again to Ephesus after the death of the tyrant, he wrote his Gospel (after the other Evangelists had already written theirs) and his three Catholic Epistles. In all, he lived ninety-five years and fell asleep in the Lord during the reign of Trajan in the year 100. He was called Theologian because he loftily expounded in his Gospel the theology of the inexpressible and eternal birth of the Son and Word of God the Father. It is for this cause that an eagle—a symbol of the Holy Spirit, as Saint Irenaeus says—is depicted in his icon, for this was one of the four symbolic living creatures that the Prophet Ezekiel saw (Ezek. 1:10).

Apolytikion of Translation of John the Theologian

Second Tone

Beloved Apostle of Christ our God, hasten to deliver a people without defense. He who permitted you to recline upon His bosom, accepts you on bended knee before Him. Beseech Him, O Theologian, to dispel the persistent cloud of nations, asking for us peace and great mercy.

THE EPISTLE READING

The reading is from John's First Universal Epistle

4:12-19

No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because he first loved us.

Ο ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Καθολικῆς Ἐπιστολῆς Ἰωάννου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

4.12-19

Θεὸν οὐδεὶς πώποτε τεθέαται· ἐὰν ἀγαπῶμεν ἀλλήλους, ὁ θεὸς ἐν ἡμῖν μένει, καὶ ἡ ἀγάπη αὐτοῦ τετελειωμένη ἐστὶν ἐν ἡμῖν. Ἐν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ μένομεν καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν ἡμῖν, ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος αὐτοῦ δέδωκεν ἡμῖν. Καὶ ἡμεῖς τεθεάμεθα καὶ μαρτυροῦμεν ὅτι ὁ πατὴρ ἀπέσταλκεν τὸν υἱὸν σωτῆρα τοῦ κόσμου. Ὃς ἂν ὁμολογήσῃ ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἐστὶν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, ὁ θεὸς ἐν αὐτῷ μένει, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν τῷ θεῷ. Καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐγνώκαμεν καὶ πεπιστεύκαμεν τὴν ἀγάπην ἣν ἔχει ὁ θεὸς ἐν ἡμῖν. Ὁ θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν, καὶ ὁ μένων ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ, ἐν τῷ θεῷ μένει, καὶ ὁ θεὸς ἐν αὐτῷ μένει. Ἐν τούτῳ τετελείωται ἡ ἀγάπη μεθ' ἡμῶν, ἵνα παρρησίαν ἔχωμεν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῆς κρίσεως, ὅτι καθὼς ἐκεῖνός ἐστιν, καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐσμεν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τούτῳ. Φόβος οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ, ἀλλ' ἡ τελεία ἀγάπη ἔξω βάλλει τὸν φόβον, ὅτι ὁ φόβος κόλασιν ἔχει· ὁ δὲ φοβούμενος οὐ τετελείωται ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ. Ἡμεῖς ἀγαπῶμεν αὐτόν, ὅτι αὐτὸς πρῶτος ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς.

THE GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel is According to John

19:25-27; 21:24-25

At that time, standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Εκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

19.25-27, 21.24-25

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰστήκεισαν δὲ παρὰ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀδελφὴ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Κλωπᾶ καὶ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ. Ἰησοῦς οὖν ἰδὼν τὴν μητέρα καὶ τὸν μαθητὴν παρεστῶτα ὃν ἠγάπα, λέγει τῇ μητρὶ αὐτοῦ· γύναι, ἴδε ὁ υἱός σου. εἶτα λέγει τῷ μαθητῇ· ἰδοὺ ἡ μήτηρ σου. καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ὥρας ἔλαβεν ὁ μαθητὴς αὐτὴν εἰς τὰ ἴδια. Οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ μαθητὴς ὁ μαρτυρῶν περὶ τούτων καὶ γράψας ταῦτα, καὶ οἶδαμεν ὅτι ἀληθὴς ἐστὶν ἡ μαρτυρία αὐτοῦ. ἔστι δὲ καὶ ἄλλα πολλὰ ὅσα ἐποίησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, ἅτινα ἐὰν γράφηται καθ' ἓν, οὐδὲ αὐτὸν οἶμαι τὸν κόσμον χωρῆσαι τὰ γραφόμενα βιβλία. Ἀμήν.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2021

...the greatest of these is love

Jesus spoke of love and showed compassion. He taught us by his example to love one another and to be compassionate toward those in need. In the Gospels, we read of the compassion of Jesus:

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick (Matthew 14:14).

Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him (Matthew 20:34).

...he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd (Mark 6:34).

Compassion can often mean kindness and sympathy. In these verses, it means something deeper and much more powerful. "And he had compassion" is translated from the Greek ἐσπλαγχνίσθη (esplachNEEsthe) and comes from the root word in Greek for "guts." In other words, it is compassion and concern that are felt in one's guts – a compassion that is felt in a deeply physical way. Compassion felt in this way compels us to respond with love and deep concern.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus says "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him..." (Luke 10:33).

In the parable of the Prodigal Son Jesus says, "But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." (Luke 15:20).

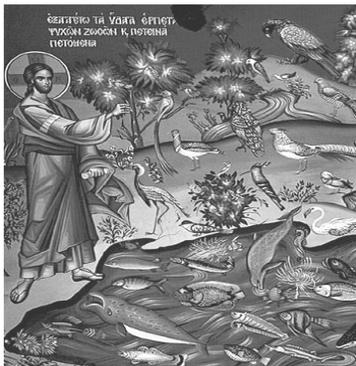
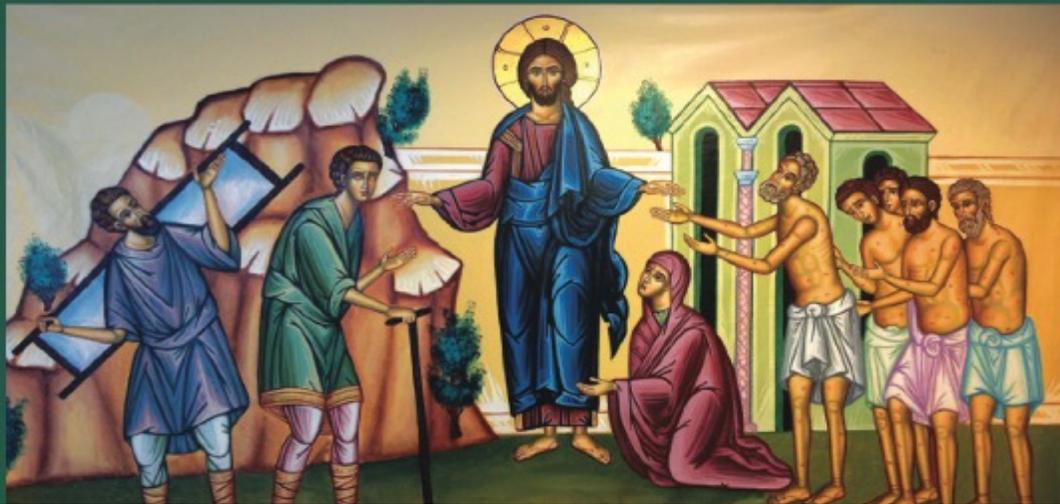
These stories reflect the love and compassion that Jesus has for his people. His compassion inspires and challenges each one of us to live compassionately.

This understanding of the full meaning of compassion in the New Testament means that another person's suffering becomes our own suffering. Compassion in this sense can change the way we live and care for others and for our community. When we feel this physical type of compassion, we are fully and physically engaged. We serve others and care for our community with love.

To love in the way Saint Paul writes to the Christians at Corinth, when he says, "...the greatest of these is love," means we can't live without compassion for others. Love and compassion are not expressed only in our offerings of money and other support. Love and compassion are not something we give in order to receive something in return. Pride has no place in acts of love and compassion.

The love that Saint Paul describes in his letter to the Christians at Corinth is an expression of stewardship. Stewardship is everything we do after we say "I believe." Stewardship is about how we live our lives and make our choices. Stewardship is about love and love is about stewardship.

Stewardship is everything we do after we say "I believe." Stewardship is about how we live our lives and make our choices.



Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. God has given each of us special and unique gifts. And through Holy Scripture He teaches us all that we have is a loan. He lends everything to us, and reminds us that

one day He will ask us to give a detailed accounting of what we have done with the gifts He has given us. Archbishop Anastasios of Albania has noted that "we find ourselves by offering ourselves." Have we learned the blessedness of generously giving to others of all we have?



One day, a person complained to his priest that the Church and Christianity is one continual "give, give, give." To which the priest replied, "Thank you very much for the finest definition of

Christianity I have ever heard. You're right, Christianity is all about a constant "give, give, give." God giving His only Son to the world to show His unconditional love. His Son Jesus giving His life on the cross to forgive our sins and destroy death. Then our Lord's disciples giving all they had to make sure God's Good News of love was preached to all people everywhere. They not only gave away their homes and businesses, but even gave up their lives as martyrs in gratitude to God!

PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENT

**Please mark your calendar for the upcoming
Philoptochos events:**

**Saturday, November 13, Philoptochos Bid&Buy
event in the Cathedral Social Hall**



Join us in Sunday School!

At the St. George Cathedral Religious Education School, our goal is to give your child a foundation and connection to their Greek Orthodox faith, culture and community.

Class I (Ages 4-5)

Emphasis on learning about God through bible stories, crafts, songs and books. Learn to identify Jesus, Panagia and make the sign of the cross.

Class II (Ages 6-9)

Focus on God's love and how we share it with our neighbor. Learn to look up a Bible passage by Chapter and Verse, identify important Saints through iconography, and the Lord's Prayer.

Class III (Ages 10-14)

Discuss weekly Gospel reading and how it relates with various events in 2021-22. Focus on the 10 Commandments, 7 Sacraments and the Feast days of the Church.

**We welcome all students
ages 4-14**

Registration is Open!

To register or for more information
please reach out to the church office

215-627-7389

office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

Classes are immediately
after Holy Communion

September 19 – May 22



Annual Events

Welcome back, *Agiasmos Service* • Christmas Pageant • Christmas Party
Greek Parade • Social Outings • Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession
Lenten Retreat • Godparent Sunday • Graduation/Promotion

St. George Cathedral Greek School

Director/Instructor: Agnes Zidros

Under the auspices of the Very Reverend Archimandrite
Ambrose Bitziadis Bowers Dean, St. George Cathedral

www.SaintGeorgeCathedral.org

"Learning the Greek Language is like
discovering the roots of education."



Greek School Info

Registration:

Registration for the Greek Language
School for 2021-2022 school year is
now open. Please call the cathedral
office: 215-627-4389 or email

office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

Location:

256 S. 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Located in historic Center City
Philadelphia, a block from Washington
Square and two blocks from
Independence Hall and the Liberty
Bell.

Tuition for Cathedral School Students

1st Child: \$300

2nd Child: \$250

3rd Child: \$250

Tuition for Non-Cathedral Students

1st Child: \$600

2nd Child: \$550

3rd Child: \$550

Hours:

Saturdays 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Saint George Cathedral

Greek School strives to instill a deep love and appreciation of the Greek language, religion, culture and arts. The program supports learning within an environment of high moral values and with a deeply rooted commitment to Hellenic ideals and tradition. It is structured to offer a well-rounded Greek education which places a strong emphasis on conversational skills, while offering instruction in grammar, reading, writing, history, mythology and culture. Children are also taught traditional Greek dances.

Our Goals: To engage and nurture the students through Greek language instruction to develop confidence, instill pride and promote faith and fellowship. **Our Tools:** We incorporate educational supplements such as songs, prayers, poems and crafts to integrate Language Arts with Greek History, culture and faith. **Character Building:** Through various participation events at both the local and tri-state area level, our children learn public speaking through poem and speech presentations. They also develop leadership skills and friendships for a lifetime.

Materials: Students are provided textbooks, workbooks, supplementary materials and necessary supplies needed for their class.

Annual Events

Children participate in various events over the school year such as:

School Blessing: Agiasmos, September

October: OXI Day, October 28th

December: Christmas Fellowship

January: Three Hierarchs Day

March: Greek Independence Day Poems

March: Parade

Lazarus Saturday Palm Making

May: Closing Ceremonies

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL PHILADELPHIA, PA GREEK SCHOOL CLASSES

The Greek School strives to instill a deep love and appreciation of the Greek language, religion, culture and arts. The program supports learning within an environment of high moral values in the legendary Cathedral of St. George in Philadelphia and with a deeply rooted commitment to Hellenic ideals and tradition.

The program includes:

- Beginner, intermediate and advanced level classes
- Lessons in Ancient Greek language, literature and philosophy
- A Greek language preparatory program for the *Ellinomatheia* annual exams
- Achieving fluency and socialization through conversation
- Greek literature, poetry and music
- Traditional Greek dancing and theatrical sketches

Greek Language Classes (Grades: 1 - 3)

Students will learn Greek language skills based on thematic units that are on their level. Conversational skills, reading and writing are taught in each language session. Each session will also include the following lessons: Greek mythology, theater, art (based on the daily theme), culture (customs, songs and dance).

Greek Language Classes (Grades: 4 - 5)

Students will learn Greek language skills based on thematic units that are on their level. Conversational skills, reading and writing are taught in each language session. Each session will also include the following lessons: Greek history, art (based on the daily theme), theater, music, culture (customs, songs and dance).

Enrichment Lessons (Grades: 4 - 6)

Literature, poetry, ancient Greek language, literature and philosophy, traveling all over Greece, music (selection of Greek songs) will be incorporated throughout the year, to enrich the language sessions.

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral



GOD BLESS & PROTECT OUR HEROES

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS
FIRST RESPONDERS • ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Welcome to Saint George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Saint George is an historic Cathedral located in downtown Philadelphia, under the spiritual auspices of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople, in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey, of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. We extend to you a warm and heartfelt Orthodox Christian welcome. Our Greek Orthodox Cathedral is dedicated to imitating the love and faithfulness of Jesus Christ by sharing the gospel with our words and living it with our lives. It exists to lead the faithful to the worship of the Holy Trinity according to the Faith and Tradition of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Our witnessing to our Faith is accomplished through the Sacramental life of the Church, its values and traditions, stewardship, fellowship, service, and Christian education.



Published by:

**ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

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<https://www.facebook.com/saintgeorgecathedral>