

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

WEEKLY BULLETIN

256 South 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

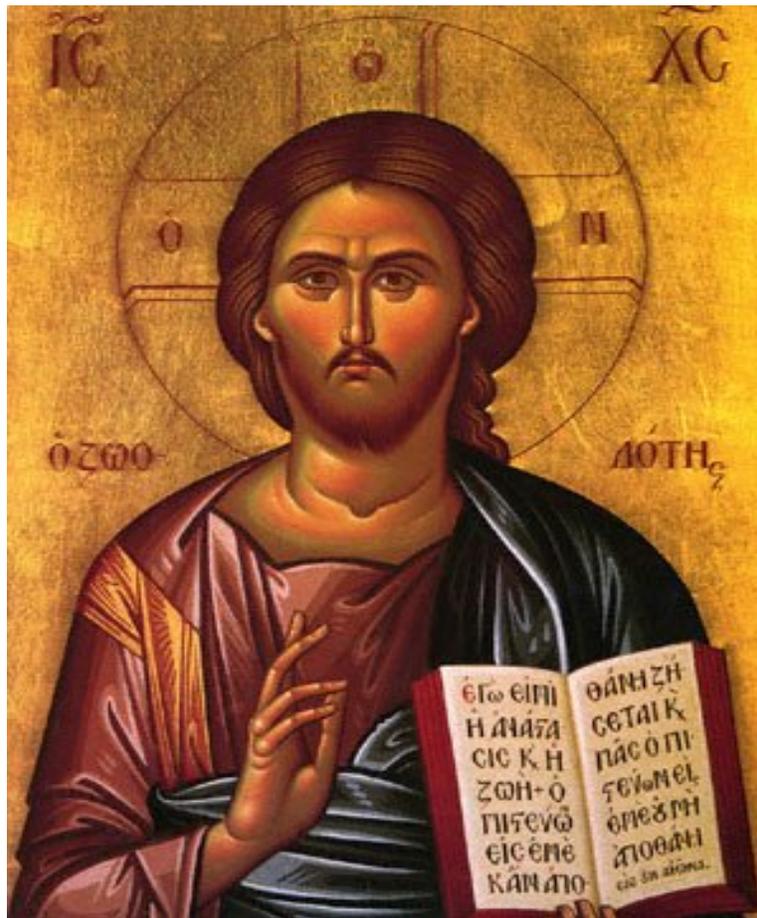
Phone: 215-627-4389

Fax: 215-627-4394

Email: office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

Web: www.saintgeorgecathedral.org

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



Today is: Sunday, June 27, 2021

2nd SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

Andrew Bishop of Crete / Lucy Martyr

Ἄνδρέου ἐπισκόπου Κρήτης / Λουκίας τῆς Μάρτυρος

***Thank you for worshipping 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** **2nd SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., July 11** **3rd SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- *One-Year Memorial Service Metaxia*
 Kousombos. May her memory be eternal!
- Sun., July 18** **4th SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- *Artoclasia Service Demati Brotherhood.*
- Tues., July 20** **St. Prophet Elaias**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Thur., July 22** **St. Magdalene and St. Macella from Chios**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., July 25** **5th SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy
- Mon., July 26** **St. Paraskeve the Rightous**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Tus., July 27** **St. Panteleemon the Great Martyr**
8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Sun., Aug. 1** **6th SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**
8:45am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΚΟΝ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

- ΣΗΜΕΡΟΝ** **2^α ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 11 Ἰουλ.** **3^η ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- *Ἐτήσιο μνημόσυνον Μεταξίας Κουσουμπού. Εἶθε ἡ μνήμη αὐτῆς νὰ εἶναι αἰώνια!*
- Κυρ., 18 Ἰουλ.** **4^η ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- *Ἄρτοκλασία Συλλόγου Δεματίου, Ἡπείρου*
- Τρίτ., 20 Ἰουλ.** **Τοῦ Ἁγίου Προφήτου Ἡλιοῦ τοῦ Θεσβίτου**
8:30π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 9:30π.μ. ἡ Θεία
Λειτουργία
- Πέμπ., 22 Ἰουλ.** **Ἁγ. Μαγδαληνῆς καὶ Ἁγ. Μαρκέλης τῆς
Χιοπολίτιδος**
8:30π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 9:30π.μ. ἡ Θεία
Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 25 Ἰουλ.** **5^η ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Δευτ. 26 Ἰουλ.** **Ἁγίας Παρασκευῆς τῆς Ὁσιοπαρθενομάρτυρος**
8:30π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 9:30π.μ. ἡ Θεία
Λειτουργία
- Τρίτ., 27 Ἰουλ.** **Ἁγίου Μαγαλομάρτυρος Παντελεήμονος**
8:30π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 9:30π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία
- Κυρ., 1^η Αυγ.** **6^η ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΜΑΤΘΑΙΟΥ**
8:45π.μ. ὁ Ὅρθρος, 10:00π.μ. ἡ Θεία Λειτουργία

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Tues., July 13** **Parish Council Meeting**
@ the Cathedral Office @ 6:30pm
- Sun. Sept. 12** **Sunday/Greek School Holy Water Blessing**
@ the Cathedral @ the end of the Divine Liturgy
- Sat., Sept. 18** **Greek School first day of classes**
- Sun., Sept. 19** **Sunday School first day of classes**
- Mon., Sept. 20** **Metropolis of NJ Clergy-Laity Congress**
@ the Venetian Garfield, NJ
- Oct. 23-Nov. 3** **Apostolic Visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in the USA**

UPCOMING SACRAMENTS

- Sunday, July 11** **Wedding**, Nicholas Giaguanos/Alyssa Campisi
@ 3:00pm
- Saturday, July 24** **Baptism**, Nicholas Papparoidamis
@ 11:00am
- Sunday, July 25** **Wedding**, Matthew Klahre /Angeliki Yannaris
@ 3:00pm

THE EPISTLE READING

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

2:10-16

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality. All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Ο ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Προς Ρωμαίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

2.10-16

Ἀδελφοί, δόξα δὲ καὶ τιμὴ καὶ εἰρήνη παντὶ τῷ ἐργαζομένῳ τὸ ἀγαθόν, Ἰουδαίῳ τε πρῶτον καὶ Ἑλληνι· οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶν προσωποληψία παρὰ τῷ θεῷ. Ὅσοι γὰρ ἀνόμως ἤμαρτον, ἀνόμως καὶ ἀπολοῦνται· καὶ ὅσοι ἐν νόμῳ ἤμαρτον, διὰ νόμου κριθήσονται· οὐ γὰρ οἱ ἀκροαταὶ τοῦ νόμου δίκαιοι παρὰ τῷ θεῷ, ἀλλ' οἱ ποιηταὶ τοῦ νόμου δικαιωθήσονται. Ὅταν γὰρ ἔθνη τὰ μὴ νόμον ἔχοντα φύσει τὰ τοῦ νόμου ποιῇ, οὗτοι, νόμον μὴ ἔχοντες, ἑαυτοῖς εἰσὶν νόμος· οἵτινες ἐνδείκνυνται τὸ ἔργον τοῦ νόμου γραπτὸν ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις αὐτῶν, συμμαρτυροῦσης αὐτῶν τῆς συνειδήσεως, καὶ μεταξὺ ἀλλήλων τῶν λογισμῶν κατηγορούντων ἢ καὶ ἀπολογουμένων, ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ὅτε κρινεῖ ὁ θεὸς τὰ κρυπτὰ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, κατὰ τὸ εὐαγγέλιόν μου, διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

THE GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel is According to Matthew

4:18-23

At that time, as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him. And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

4.18-23

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, περιπατῶν δὲ παρὰ τὴν θάλασσαν τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶδε δύο ἀδελφούς, Σίμωνα τὸν λεγόμενον Πέτρον καὶ Ἀνδρέαν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ, βάλλοντας ἀμφίβληστρον εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν· ἦσαν γὰρ ἄλιεῖς· καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς· δεῦτε ὀπίσω μου καὶ ποιήσω ὑμᾶς ἄλιεῖς ἀνθρώπων. οἱ δὲ εὐθέως ἀφέντες τὰ δίκτυα ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ. Καὶ προβάς ἐκεῖθεν εἶδεν ἄλλους δύο ἀδελφούς, Ἰάκωβον τὸν τοῦ Ζεβεδαίου καὶ Ἰωάννην τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ, ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ μετὰ Ζεβεδαίου τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτῶν καταρτίζοντας τὰ δίκτυα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκάλεσεν αὐτούς. οἱ δὲ εὐθέως ἀφέντες τὸ πλοῖον καὶ τὸν πατέρα αὐτῶν ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ. Καὶ περιῆγεν ὅλην τὴν Γαλιλαίαν ὁ Ἰησοῦς διδάσκων ἐν ταῖς συναγωγαῖς αὐτῶν καὶ κηρύσσων τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τῆς βασιλείας καὶ θεραπέων πᾶσαν νόσον καὶ πᾶσαν μαλακίαν ἐν τῷ λαῷ.

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 (esplachNEEsthee) 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.

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

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.



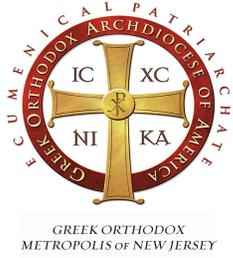
Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. God has given each of us special and unique gifts. And through Holy Scripture He teaches us all that we have is a loan. He lends everything to us, and reminds us that

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!



Saint George Greek Orthodox Cathedral

256 South 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 • Tel.: (215) 627-4389
Fax: (215) 627-4394 • Web: saintgeorgecathedral.org
Very Reverend Archimandrite, Ambrose Bitziadis-Bowers, Presiding Priest
office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

May 5, 2021

My beloved parishioners:

**CHRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI!
CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY IS RISEN!**

With great joy I communicate with you in order to announce the reestablishment of the Byzantine Choir ministry of our St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, continuing its almost 85 years successful contribution and fruitful presence in the spiritual edification of our parishioners of St. George Cathedral.

The ministry's director and Leading Chanter (Protopsaltis) of our Cathedral Mr. Gregorios Peios will be offering instructions and rehearsals once a week of the Byzantine Chant for the strengthening of the spiritual and liturgical ministry of our Orthodox Church.

Everyone is welcome to attend and we encourage everyone to support this ministry of our Cathedral enthusiastically by promoting the program to our children, young people and adults, in order to give them the opportunity to study and to be cultivated and immersed in our traditional ecclesiastical music. Participation in this ministry nurtures our spiritual lives and existentially leads us to a fuller understanding of God's purpose through the Incarnation and Resurrection of Jesus Christ in the creation.

If you would like to participate you can register at the Cathedral office by calling in person @ 215-627-4389, or email @: office@saintgeorgecathedral.org. Please leave your email and cellphone# to the office for future contact for more upcoming details.

Wishing you a very blessed resurrectional period, I remain,

In His Service,

Very Reverend Archimandrite Ambrose Bitziadis-Bowers
Dean of the Cathedral

PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Saturday, September 25, Philoptochos Annual Tea event
in the afternoon (More details will be coming soon)

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.



THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

ARCHIEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 164/2021

Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Apostolic Visit of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW to the United States

June 30, 2021

Synaxis of the Holy and Glorious Twelve Apostles

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, 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 Holy Archdiocese of America.

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου! (Ψαλμός 117:25)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! (Psalm 117:25 LXX)

With unsurpassed joy, we announce on the Feast of the Glorious Twelve, the Apostolic Visit of His All Holiness BARTHOLOMEW, Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch to the United States, October 23 – November 3, 2021. This Visit, the first in twelve years, will commence the day following the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Election of His All-Holiness as Ecumenical Patriarch, and include the same anniversary of His Enthronement on the venerable See of the First-Called Apostle Saint Andrew on November 2nd. The Apostolic Visit will inaugurate the Centennial



Celebration of the founding of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (1922 – 2022), which will be observed next year across the country.

The Ecumenical Patriarch will begin by being welcomed in our Nation’s Capital at the highest level of diplomatic and ecclesiastical dignity. The official itinerary will be shared in the coming weeks, and it will include a visit to the Metropolises of Pittsburgh and Chicago, with a major ecumenical event taking place at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

The Visit will conclude in New York City, and will culminate in a dedicatory “Opening of the Doors” of the Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine at the World Trade Center on the very anniversary of his Enthronement as Ecumenical Patriarch. All of our Metropolises, Parishes, and Institutions will be able to share in this joy, through interactive features that will accompany His All-Holiness on his Visit. Therefore, with gladness and enthusiasm, let us welcome the Spiritual Father of us all, and with heartfelt cries proclaim: “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

With paternal blessings in the Lord,

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

ARCHIEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 172/2021

Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Fourth of July

July 4, 2021

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, 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 Holy Archdiocese of America.

My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, ἐπαινέσατε Αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ λαοί! (Ψαλμός 116:1)
Praise the Lord, all Nations; laud Him, all peoples! (Psalm 116:1, LXX)

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate our National holiday of the Fourth of July, let us all pause to give thanks for our American democracy. Like every form of governing the πόλις, it will always be less than perfect, for the human beings who conduct the affairs of state and the rule of law are imperfect as well. But let us rejoice that what we have witnessed in our land – from coast to coast – is a willingness to confront the injustices of past and present, and to find common ground to address them. This is the genius of a democracy. This is the genius of a people seeking a “more perfect union.” This is the genius of America.

Our national blessings do not come without responsibilities. We have a civic vocation to participate in public life, regardless of our personal political views. The



Church has its own moral and ethical ground, but we recognize the civil rights of others to disagree with us. Grateful for the religious freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, we must make our case in a spirit of love and acceptance of others, even those whose opinions – minority or majority – strike us as wrong. There must be the same rights for all Americans, or there is no safety of rights for any American.

Beloved Faithful, we are so very blessed to live in this ‘land of the free and home of the brave,’ which has been defended by the sacrifice of so many. We Orthodox Christians are relatively few in America, but we should have an outsize influence – for justice, for equality – to speak for the voiceless and advocate the downtrodden. This is our way of giving back and of giving thanks. Together, let us help to make of our Nation a place that does, indeed, praise the Lord in word and deed. Thus, all citizens shall be happy and blessed; for, as it says in the Psalms: “Blessed are the people who know jubilation” (Psalm 88:15, LXX).

A happy Fourth of July to all!

With paternal love in Christ Jesus,

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗΣ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΙΚΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Αριθ. Πρωτ. 172/2021

Ποιμαντορική και Αρχιεπισκοπική εγκύκλιος για την Ήμέρα τῆς τετάρτης Ἰουλίου.

4 Ἰουλίου 2021

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

Προσφιλεῖς ἀδελφοὶ καὶ ἀδελφές ἐν Χριστῷ,

Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, ἐπαινέσατε Αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ λαοί! (Ψαλμὸς 116:1).

Ἐορτάζοντας μὲ συγγενεῖς καὶ φίλους τὴν ἐθνικὴ ἐορτὴ τῆς τετάρτης Ἰουλίου, ἅς εὐχαριστήσουμε τὸ Θεὸ γιὰ αὐτὸ τὸ θαυμάσιο πολίτευμα τῆς Δημοκρατίας τῆς Ἀμερικῆς. Γνωρίζουμε ὅτι κάθε μορφή διακυβέρνησης ἔχει ἀτέλειες, καθὼς αὐτοὶ ποὺ χειρίζονται τὶς ὑποθέσεις τοῦ κράτους καὶ νομοθετοῦν εἶναι ἄνθρωποι μὲ ἀτέλειες καὶ ἐλαττώματα. Ὅμως, ἅς ἀναθαρρήσουμε γιὰτὶ εἴμαστε μάρτυρες ὅτι σὲ αὐτὴ τὴ χώρα, ἀπὸ τὴ μία ἄκρη ἕως τὴν ἄλλη, ὑπάρχει ἡ θέληση νὰ διορθωθοῦν οἱ ἀδικίες τοῦ παρελθόντος καὶ νὰ βρεθεῖ ἕνας κοινὸς τόπος συνεννόησης καὶ διευθέτησής τους. Αὐτὸ εἶναι τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς δημοκρατίας! Αὐτὸ εἶναι τὸ πνεῦμα ἑνὸς λαοῦ ποὺ ἀναζητᾷ «μία τελειότερη ἔνωση»! Αὐτὸ εἶναι τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς Ἀμερικῆς!



Τὰ δῶρα αὐτὰ τῆς δημοκρατίας δὲν εἶναι αὐτονόητα καὶ ἔχουν ὑποχρεώσεις. Ἔχουμε χρέος, ὡς πολίτες αὐτῆς τῆς χώρας, νὰ μετέχουμε στὸ δημόσιο βίον, ἀνεξαρτήτως τῶν προσωπικῶν μας πολιτικῶν πεποιθήσεων. Ἡ Ὁρθόδοξη Ἐκκλησία ἔχει ἀνεκτίμητες ἠθικὲς ἀρχὲς καὶ ἀξίες, ἀλλὰ ἀναγνωρίζει ἀπόλυτα τὸ δικαίωμα τῶν ἄλλων ἀνθρώπων νὰ διαφωνοῦν μὲ αὐτές. Εὐγνώμονες γιὰ τὴ θρησκευτικὴ ἐλευθερία ὅπως αὐτὴ κατοχυρώνεται ἀπὸ τὴ Διακήρυξη τῶν Δικαιωμάτων, πρέπει καὶ ἐμεῖς νὰ παλέψουμε γιὰ τὴν ἀποδοχὴ τοῦ διαφορετικοῦ μὲ πνεῦμα ἀγάπης, ἀνεξάρτητα ἂν ἡ διαφορετικὴ ἀπόψη, μειοψηφικὴ ἢ πλειοψηφικὴ, θεωρεῖ τὴ δική μας ὡς λανθασμένη. Διότι εἴτε ὅλοι οἱ ἀμερικανοὶ ἔχουμε τὰ ἴδια δικαιώματα, εἴτε δὲν ὑπάρχει ἀσφαλὲς δικαίωμα γιὰ κανένα μας.

Ἀγαπητοὶ μου χριστιανοί, εἴμαστε ὅλοι τόσο εὐλογημένοι ποὺ κατοικοῦμε σὲ αὐτὴ τὴ «γῆ τῆς ἐλευθερίας», αὐτὴ τὴν ἐλευθερία ποὺ πολλοὶ ὑπερασπίστηκαν μὲ προσωπικὲς θυσίες. Οἱ ὀρθόδοξοι χριστιανοὶ εἴμαστε σχετικὰ λίγοι στὴν Ἀμερικὴ, ἀλλὰ ὀφείλουμε νὰ ἔχουμε μιὰ δυνατὴ φωνὴ γιὰ τὴν ὑπεράσπιση τῆς δικαιοσύνης καὶ τῆς ἰσότητος, μὲ τὴν ὑποστήριξη τῶν κατετρεγμένων καὶ τῶν ἀδικουμένων. Αὐτὴ εἶναι ἡ προσφορὰ μας καὶ ἡ εὐχαριστία μας. Ὅλοι μαζί, ἂς ἐργαστοῦμε νὰ κάνουμε αὐτὴ τὴ θαυμάσια χώρα ἕναν τόπο δοξολογίας πρὸς τὸν Κύριο μὲ λόγια καὶ μὲ ἔργα. Ἔτσι, οἱ πολίτες τοῦ Ἔθνους μας θὰ εἶναι εὐτυχισμένοι καὶ εὐλογημένοι, ὅπως μᾶς τὸ ἐπισημαίνει καὶ ὁ ψαλμωδός: «μακάριος ὁ λαὸς ὁ γινώσκων ἀλαλαγμόν» (Ψαλμ. 88:16).

Εὐχομαὶ σὲ ὅλους μιὰ εὐλογημένη ἡμέρα τῆς τετάρτης Ἰουλίου!

Μετὰ πατρικῆς ἀγάπης ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.

† Ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος

† Ὁ Ἀμερικῆς Ἐλπιδοφόρος



**July
12-16**

*staff report
July 11th

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

**Camp Good Shepherd-
Chesapeake Bay**
will be a
guaranteed week of
fun, making
friends, and
learning about our
faith! The week is
filled with daily
activities such as
arts and crafts,
athletics,
swimming,
enjoying meals
together, campfire,
a dance, and more!



PER PERSON

Early bird (Before June
21st) - \$500
After June 21st- \$575
Day camp (July 15th
only) - \$75

**At Camp Wo-Me-To in Rocks State
Park!**

Registration for
campers and
staff

<http://app.campdoc.com/register/goodshepherd>

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.



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

Contact Information:

Tel: (215) 627-4389 Fax: (215) 627-4394

www.stgeorgecathedral.org

Email: office@saintgeorgecathedral.org

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