

# Saint George Greek Orthodox Church

**Parish Office:** 107 Clinton Street, Schenectady, New York 12305

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday, 9 AM - 2 PM

**Parish Telephone:** (518) 393-0742; **Fax:** (518) 393-4093

**Web:** www.saintgeorgegoc.com



**Rev. Fr. Peter Daratsos, Interim Parish Priest**  
**Camille Kosloski, Parish Secretary**

***Sunday Services: Orthros: 9:00 AM; Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM***  
***~ Week Day Liturgies as announced ~***

## Parish Council Exec. Committee

**Mrs. Athena Pagnotti**

*President*

**Mrs. Lucy Brady**

*Vice-President*

**Mrs. Alexandra Casey**

*Co-Treasurer*

**Mr. Anargyros (Ron) Dikas**

*Co-Treasurer*

**Ms. Panagiota Giakoumis**

*Secretary*

*Happy Thanksgiving*

## Youth Advisors

**Mrs. Lucy Goodale**

**Mrs. Paula Kingra**

*Angels/Hope/Joy*

**Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morlock**

*GOYA*

**Miss Georgia Tsakopiakos**

*Youth Hellenic Dancers*

## Parish Ministry Leaders

**Ms. Olga Delorey**

*Choir Director*

*Philoptochos Society President*

**Mrs. Athena Pagnotti**

*Sunday School Coordinator*

**Vacant**

*Bible Study*

*Spiritual Book Club*

**Mrs. Eliana Georgelos**

**Mr. Paul Pagiotas**

*Fellowship Group*

*Co-Presidents*

*Parish Council Members: Lucy Brady, Alexandra Casey, Kyriako Contompasis,  
Anargyros (Ron) Dikas, Morgan Gazetos, Maria Dostis-Koliatsis, Panagiota Giakoumis, and Athena Pagnotti*

## Sacraments, Services and Home Visitations

Holy Baptism · Holy Chrismation · Holy Confession

Holy Communion · Holy Unction · Holy Marriage

Please contact the Parish Office directly to schedule.

### ~From Father Peter's Desk ~

We all read a good book now and then. When we finish the book, we put it back on the shelf or give it away. The Bible is different – we keep it on the shelf and read it daily or from time to time. I've read the Bible many times and certain passages dozens of times. The words are the same but there are times I have an "AHA moment". A passage provides me with a new insight, a new message from Our Lord. The Lord Himself is sharing His wisdom to help me to grow spiritually.



Let me share with you something I experienced during liturgy Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup>. I was giving the sermon after reading the Gospel passage, Luke 8:26-39. It is the passage about the man possessed by many demons in the large town of Gerasene. How was it that he was the only one in this town who recognized Christ? I'd read this passage many times and even gave sermons about it. But that day was different as I was giving the sermon I had an "Aha" moment. As I was speaking about the demons leaving the man and entering the swine with them going down the hill into the sea, I started to think about the swine carrying the man's sins into the water. BUT.. instead of visualizing the sea, I saw a baptismal font and the service of Holy Baptism; all this compacted in a matter of milliseconds. For me it meant the power we possess as Christians when we believe in Christ. Christ had unshackled the man from sin as he had done for all of us when we are baptized and renewed through confession and Holy Communion.

What is perplexing for me is why did this interpretation come to me during the sermon. Why not the evening before when I was preparing my remarks? True I was feeling more relaxed the last couple of days; I'm enjoying my hobbies; we plan on seeing the grandchildren; and everyone is in good health. Maybe this "moment of calm" helped me to relax enough to interpret another message from the Lord.

My message to you is to slow down; reread the Bible and let the word of God renew you and help you in your spiritual journey.

Father Peter S. Daratsos



## Order of AHEPA Schenectady Chapter 125

We are pleased to inform you that the first Schenectady AHEPA Chapter 125 meeting and re-activation will be on Saturday, November 19 at 12 pm. It will be conducted by AHEPA Supreme Governor Chris Diamantoukos, AHEPA District 6 Lt. Governor Demi Pamboukes, and AHEPA District 6 Secretary Chris Pappis. Brother Chris Diamantoukos is a member of the AHEPA Supreme Lodge with headquarters in Washington, DC. They are the highest executive authority of the Order of AHEPA and it is an honor to have him join us.

**There will be an interest meeting for ALL men of St. George on Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 pm.**

If you have any questions, please contact:

Phil Menagias at (518) 857-2669 or [p\\_menagias@hotmail.com](mailto:p_menagias@hotmail.com)  
Fr. Peter Daratsos at (518) 210-5749 or [pdaratsos@gmail.com](mailto:pdaratsos@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing everyone there!!

## *From the Parish Council*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Last month, I reported on the roles of council members in parish administration. This month, I'd like to highlight some of the parish leadership roles outside of the council. While these ministries have been lovingly supported by members of our parish, we sometimes shift our activities around, or need to take a break, so we always need folks to get involved and lend a helping hand. Would YOU consider being a part of ~

- ⇒ Altar Servers
- ⇒ Bible Study and Spiritual Book Club
- ⇒ Bereavement Supporters
- ⇒ Choir/Chanters
- ⇒ Church Ushers
- ⇒ Epistle Readers
- ⇒ Fellowship Group
- ⇒ Festival Leaders and Volunteers
- ⇒ Ladies Philoptochos Society
- ⇒ Parish Council Officers/Members
- ⇒ Soup Kitchen Volunteers
- ⇒ St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival
- ⇒ St. George Dance Troupe Supporter
- ⇒ Sunday School Teacher
- ⇒ "Thursday Morning Boys" Club
- ⇒ Youth Group Leaders and Volunteers

I don't have to report to you on the sense of joy that comes with spending time with your Church Family in service to God and others. And for those of you who may have been taken away by work or family commitments, this is a terrific opportunity to renew old acquaintances and get to know someone new! It could also be a starting place for bringing our absent family members or friends back to the Church. All of us have special gifts and talents to share; these were given to us by God.

No one person or few people can do it all. **We need the collective talents and time of all parishioners to make the experience of parish life the best it can be.** Please reach out to any council or parish ministry leader, or just show up at one of the meetings. Schedules are announced in the Community News page at the back of this bulletin and at [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com).



The 3rd Annual Guest Presenter Series took place on Wednesday, October 19th. We enjoyed a presentation by **Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes** on *Living An Ancient Faith in a Modern World*. About twenty folks attended the presentation and we enjoyed a nice reception in the Hellenic Center following the event. Look for more information on spiritual program events in the next issue of the bulletin.

**A festival wrap-up meeting and pot-luck supper is planned for Monday, November 7th at 6 pm in the Hellenic Center.** Bring a crock-pot or casserole dish to share! At this gathering of the Festival Committee, you'll hear reports from each booth leader and have an opportunity to make your recommendations known for next year. A complete financial report will be given. We will review the entertainment offerings for 2017, and choose the band. We will solicit booth leader commitments for 2017 at this meeting. We will hold a (free) raffle drawing for all in attendance (*courtesy of Peter and Janet Giakoumis*) for two tickets to a performance in February at *Capital Repertory Theater* in Albany.



**The Fall General Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4th.** We will elect three new council members at that time. We will also discuss news of a permanent parish priest. We will present a tentative calendar of events for the 2017 year. The 2017 parish budget will be presented for acceptance, and a complete festival financial report will be given as well. Please make every effort to attend and hear reports on the success of this past year. Election candidates should first meet with Fr. Peter, then Father will direct you to election committee members: Paula Kingra and Joanne Diamantis. **We require one additional committee member to meet UPR requirements. Please contact Father Peter if you are willing to serve on the election committee.**

Remember to visit [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com) for up to date news, bulletins, schedules and Hellenic Center rental information.

Please make efforts to fulfill your 2016 Stewardship pledges before year-end. And thank you again for your financial support for the parish! Also, please make note of the **parish office hours: Monday—Thursday, 9 am—2 pm.**

With Love in Christ ~  
Athena Pagnotti

Mark your calendars!

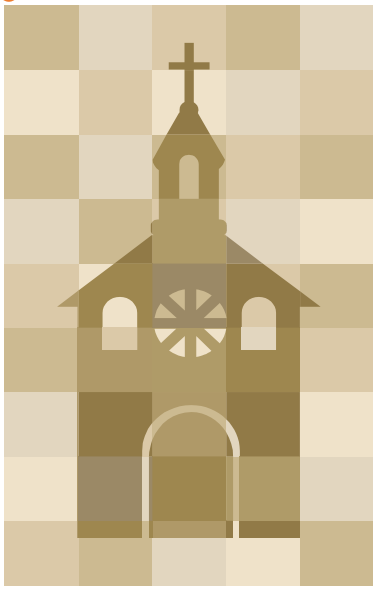
## **The Annual Fall General Assembly Meeting**

Sunday, December 4th

St. George Greek Orthodox Church

~ following Divine Liturgy ~

We will elect three new members to serve on the council at this meeting. In order to be eligible to run, candidates must attend the **Archdiocese council training seminar.** Our regional training event will be held at **St. Sophia in Albany on Wednesday, November 9th at 6:30 pm.**



***Bold print denotes  
pledged members  
who are paid in full.***

*Thank you to all who  
have pledged thus far.*

*There is still room on the  
list to add your name!  
Please submit and fulfill  
your pledge to St. George  
Greek Orthodox Church  
today.*

*To receive a pledge form,  
please contact the parish  
office at 393-0742, or ask  
any parish council  
member at church.*

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

# 2016 Pledge Goal: \$ 75,000.00

Total amount pledged to date: \$ 69,530.00

Total amount received to date: \$ 60,524.50

*~ As of October 24th ~*

Platinum Level Stewards \$1,500 +  
Seven (7) Stewards

Gold Level Stewards \$1,000 — \$1,499  
Fifteen (15) Stewards

Silver Level Stewards \$500 — \$999  
Twenty-seven (27) Stewards

Bronze Level Stewards \$499 or less  
Seventy-two (72)

### ***2016 St. George GOC Members Pledged to Date***

**Rev. Fr. Peter &  
Presbytera Nina Daratsos**

**Rev. Fr. Theodore & Tatiana Roupas**

**Faith Adamec & Family**

**Peter and Gloria Andrikopoulos**

**Paul & Tiara Antonovich**

**Angela Aretakis**

**Stephanie Arrington**

**Eugenia Avramidis**

**Maryna Baker**

**Athan Baskous**

**John Behiri**

**Nicholas & Eleni Behiri**

**Susan Birbilis**

**Lucy Brady & Family**

**Sam & Deborah Bratsos**

**Ifigenia Brown**

**Arji Cakouros**

**Dr. Fanny Caranikas**

**Patrick & Alexandra Casey & Family**

**Palmyra Catravas**

**Andreas Christou**

**Andreas & Panayiota Christou**

**Ariana Christou**

**Euripides & Eleni Christou**

**Catherine Contompasis**

**Catherine Contompasis**

**Charles Contompasis**

**Emanuel & MaryEllen Contompasis**

**Joan Contompasis**

**Demetra Corsones**

**Stephanie Cospito**

**George & Constantina Cotzas**

**Rena Counavelis**

Chris & Joanne Dafniotis  
**Ciara D'Angelo**  
Olga Delorey  
**Joanne Diamantis**  
Marguerite Doulides  
**Angela Economou**  
Evan Euripidou  
**Michael & Elaine Euripidou**  
Morgan & Julie Gazetos  
**Demetrios Geanopoulos &  
KimAthena Kakos**  
**Arthur Georgelas**  
**Helena Georgelas**  
Eliana Georgelos  
Panagiota Giakoumis  
**Peter & Janet Giakoumis & Family**  
**Steve & Alice Giakoumis**  
**Brian and Lucy Goodale & Family**  
**Angela T. Grivas**  
**Dimitri Grivas & Family**  
**Periklis Hais**  
**Angelica Holzhauser & Family**  
**Owen & Maria Huggins**  
**Angeliki Jones**  
**Thomas & Shannon Jones & Family**  
Peter & Dayna Kalil  
**Evangelia & Stavroula Kalogeras**  
Antonia Kananis & Family  
**Steve & Fanny Karamanos**  
Polixeni Kingra & Family  
**Charles & Katheleen Koinos**  
J. Maria Dostis-Koliatsis & Michael Koliatsis  
**Katina Kontakos**  
**Maria Kontakos**  
**Chris & Voula Kounoupis**  
Steven & Barbara Kouray  
**Barbara Koutsakis**  
**Haralambos & Connie Koutsopoulos**  
**Dimitrios Koutsopoulos**  
Anna Ktenas  
**Patricia Lambert & Family**  
**Trifon & Zannetta Laskaris**  
Christine Legorius  
**Frieda Legorious**  
**Rosemary Legorius**  
**Achilles & Anna Mafilios**  
William Manikas

James & Ann Mantas  
**Cathy Marco**  
**Akrivi Markopoulos**  
**Athena Markopoulos**  
**Ann Markopoulos**  
**Stephen & Mary Markopoulos**  
Phil & Norina McGowen & Family  
Cathy & Maria Menagias & Family  
Fillippos & Erene Menagias  
Georgio Menagias  
**Jerry & Angela Menagias**  
**Spiro & Rena Mikropoulos**  
**Evangelos & Dina Nikolaidis**  
**Simeon & Barbara Nikolaidis**  
Katherine Orfan  
Paul & Joann Pagiotas  
Athena Pagnotti & Family  
**Peter & Penney Pagones**  
**Kostantinos & Debra Papanikos**  
**Nick & Gladys Paravalos**  
**Tony Poulos**  
Frank & Teresa Rossetti  
**LeGrande Serras**  
Elena Sikamiotis  
**Ourania Sokaris**  
Roubina Spyros-Morgan  
Van & Anita Stathis  
**Kaliopi Struffolino & Family**  
Olga Stryjski  
George & Christie S. Svolos  
**Themetria Svolos**  
**Angela Theodore**  
Helen Trinci  
**Melissa Verrigini & Family**  
**Fanny Caraniakas-Walker**  
**Mark Wempe**  
**Brian & Megan Whipple**  
**Peter Wilson**  
**Peter Wilson & Family**  
**Mary Wilson**  
**Steve & Sophie Zanaros**  
**Anastasia Zoulas**  
**Peter & Mary Zoulas**





To my fellow Parishioners and Families,

Just a reminder that Stewardship Sunday will take place on December 4, 2016. Please remember to fulfill your 2016 pledge as you plan for your 2017 pledge. Statements will be mailed out by November.

If you have any questions regarding Stewardship, please feel free to contact me at [stewardship@stgeorge.goc.com](mailto:stewardship@stgeorge.goc.com) or please leave a message for me with the Church secretary, Camille.

It is important to note when thinking about the amount to pledge, it should not be as much about what the Church needs, but it should be based on your relationship with God and the blessings that He has bestowed upon you and your family. Basically, you are giving back to God what he has blessed you to have.

Lucy Brady, Stewardship Chairperson





## **FELLOWSHIP NEWS - NOVEMBER 2016**

Greetings from the Fellowship Group!

The month of November brings us many wonderful experiences. Having ended October with the enjoyment of watching children going door to door for goodies on Halloween, we now look forward to the coming of Thanksgiving at the end of the month. Although this is a secular holiday, it is seeped in history and tradition, and has become a way for our families and friends to come together.



Prior to Thanksgiving, however, we cannot forget that, as Orthodox Christians, we begin our preparations for the Nativity of Christ with the Nativity Fast. This is a 40 day fast that begins on November 15th and ends on December 24th.

On November 21st, during the course of the Nativity Fast, falls one of the Great Feast Days of the Orthodox Church, that of the entrance into the Temple of the Theotokos. This feast honors when, as a young child, the Virgin Mary entered the Temple in Jerusalem. Let us all pray and worship together during these beautiful holy days.

On the 13th of October, in lieu of a regular meeting, 19 of our members and friends traveled to Lake George to attend the Lake George Dinner Theater's second production of the season, a comedy about late in life romance entitled "Southern Comforts". Accompanying us to this wonderful performance were friends from both St. Sophia's and St. Basil's churches. The drive to Lake George was beautiful this time of year, and we all enjoyed not only the show, but also the delicious food that was served. (See all our happy faces in the attached photo)! Celebrating their birthdays on that day were

Joanne Pagiotas and Steve Giakoumis. Happy Birthday to you both!

This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, November 10th at 11:30 AM at the Hellenic Center. Our lunch will feature a hearty beef stew, tossed Greek salad, crusty bread and dessert.

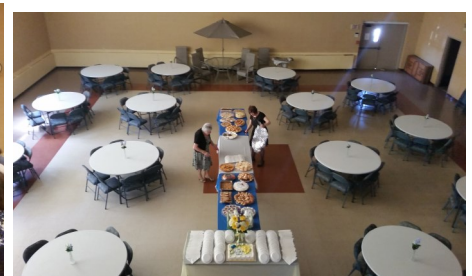
As always, we continuously encourage newcomers to join our Fellowship group. Unless there is a special occasion when we travel or meet at a restaurant, our meetings take place at the Hellenic Center on the second Thursday of every month at 11:30 AM. We always begin our meetings with a meal. A nominal fee of \$3.00 for members and \$5.00 for non-members is charged to cover the cost of the food. Dues are \$25 annually. Please contact our treasurer, Kathy Koines, or either of our co-presidents, Paul Pagiotas or Eliana Georgelos, for more information.

### ***St. George Greek Orthodox Church***

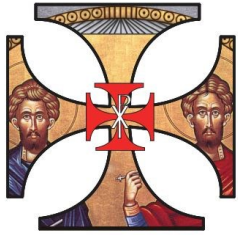
#### **Hellenic Center is available to rent for your next business or social event.**

Visit [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com) and view the Hellenic Center tab on the left. You can see photos and download the rental application there. Rental applications are also available in the parish office.

Interested parties should first contact the parish office to see if the date is available.



PHILOPTOCHOS



**MEETING NOTES.** At the meeting held on **October 20, 2016** the membership approved the following donations:

**Concerned for the Hungry, Inc.**

**St. Michel's Home for the Aged (DAD Commitment)**

**National Philoptochos Emergency Fund (National Commitment)**

**Food Cards for Veterans (Make A Difference Project)**

**Operation Adopt-A-Soldier (Christmas Care Packages)**

**Schenectady County Social Services Department – Families in Need**

**CHAPTER NAME DAY.** On **Sunday, November 6, 2016** we will commemorate our Philoptochos Name Day (Saints Kosmas and Damianos). A Memorial Service in remembrance of our past members who have fallen asleep in the Lord will be chanted. A special tray will be passed following the Divine Liturgy for the benefit of the Ecumenical Patriarchate programs and charities which is one of our national commitments.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD.** As is our tradition, the Philoptochos will sponsor the **St. George Greek Orthodox Church 2016 Christmas Card**. This is a wonderful opportunity to extend our Christmas greetings to all St. George parishioners. If you would like your name to appear on the card, please complete the form that appears in this bulletin and submit it along with your donation. A **minimum donation of \$10.00** is requested. Proceeds will be used for our annual Christmas Charity donations among other philanthropic contributions. Deadline is **Sunday, December 11, 2016**. Please see Toly Svolos for more information.

**CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE.** Brrrrr ... winter is approaching (really!) and we need your help. Once again, the Ladies Philoptochos Society will sponsor a **"Mitten Tree"** in the Hellenic Center. Last year was our first ever attempt at organizing this project and it was a resounding success! Our St. George community was most generous in making and/or purchasing the items needed. Please help us decorate our tree with **NEW** mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for children who reside at or receive services from the City Mission of Schenectady. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your blessings and provide needed clothing items for children who live in poverty. Please help us give the gift of warmth! The tree will be in the Hellenic Center from **Sunday, November 6 through Sunday, December 11, 2016**.

**SOUP KITCHEN.** On **Tuesday, September 27, 2016** our Philoptochos prepared and served dinner for **168 persons** at the **Salvation Army Soup Kitchen**. The Soup Kitchen was sponsored by **Jan Gallas In Memory of John Gallas**. May his memory be eternal. A Trisagion Service was chanted by Father Peter on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The dinner consisted of one entrée (Chicken Rice Casserole and Pork Rice Casserole), Green Beans, Fruit Cup, Bread and Butter, Dessert, Juice and Coffee. Our heartfelt thanks to the following team members who helped prepare and/or serve the meal: **Kathy Koines (Chair), Charlie Koines, Mike Euripidou, Pete Kalil, Steve & Alice Giakoumis, Olga Delorey, Tina Twardzik, Bill Manikas and Dom DiCocco**.

*"...for I was hungry and you gave me food ...*

*...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My bretheren, you did it to Me"*

*Matthew 25: 35-40*

**SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER WALK THANK YOU.** We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our efforts for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure which was held on October 1, 2016. A big thank you to the **"Capital Region Ladies Philoptochos Society Team"**: **Presbytera Nina Daratsos (Captain), Kathy Koines, Olga Delorey, Gladys Paravalos, Julie Mosher, Jeanne Chien**. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our St. George Philoptochos and chapter members, St. George parishioners, and St. Sophia Philoptochos and chapter members for their financial support. Together ... we raised over \$800!



**DAD REGIONAL MEETING.** On Saturday, October 8, 2016, the Direct Archdiocesan District (DAD) Philoptochos President, Jennifer Constanin, along with the DAD 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Athina Beury, Treasurer Bia George and Advisor Maria Skiadis, traveled to the Capital District to hold a Regional Leadership Meeting. The meeting took place at St. Sophia in Albany and was sponsored by the St. Sophia, St. George and St. Basil Philoptochos Chapters. In attendance were members from the three local chapters as well as four members from the church in Poughkeepsie, NY. Prior to the meeting a light lunch was served. The primary focus of the meeting was to promote the Philoptochos mission; educate members about finances, chapter elections and social services; and provide a forum to exchange ideas, discuss matters of concern and answer questions.

**NEXT MEETING.** Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 6:30 pm.**

**Ladies Philoptochos Society Board of Directors 2015-2017**

**Officers:** Olga Delorey (President), Gladys Paravalos (Vice President & Advisor)  
Zanetta Laskaris (Treasurer), Kathy Koines (Assistant Treasurer)  
Elaine Euripidou (Secretary), Cathy Contompasis (Assistant Secretary)

**Members:** Lucy Brady, Presbytera Nina Daratsos, Joanne Diamantis, Eliana Georgelos  
Alice Giakoumis, Aleka Menagias, Elena Sikamiotis

**SPECIAL COFFEE HOURS** may be arranged by contacting Coffee Hour Chair Lucy Brady (346-4722). A voluntary donation to the Ladies Philoptochos Society in addition to the expenses would be greatly appreciated.





Sponsored by Ladies Philoptochos Society  
November 6 – December 11, 2016  
To Benefit Children at City Mission of Schenectady

**the Mitten Tree**

SNUGGLY

Mitten Tree WARM

gen tree WARM COZY toasty

SOFT Mitten tree WARM COZY toasty

**GIVE THE GIFT OF WARMTH!**

**this Holiday season, help us  
Decorate *the Mitten tree* with  
WARM Mittens, GLOVES and Hats**





**TO: ALL PARISHIONERS**  
**FROM: Ladies Philoptochos Society**  
**RE: ST. GEORGE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD**

THIS YEAR WE ARE ONCE AGAIN OFFERING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEND AND SHARE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS WITH YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS.

THIS CARD OFFERS YOU THE SAVINGS OF BUYING CARDS AND STAMPS FOR OVER 100 OTHER FAMILIES. YOU WILL RECEIVE A CARD OF THE SAME QUALITY WE HAVE HAD IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

A CONTRIBUTION OF \$10.00 IS REQUIRED. YOUR DONATION TO THE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY WILL BENEFIT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CHARITY DONATIONS AMONG OTHER PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS.

IN ORDER TO HAVE ALL OF YOUR NAMES PRINTED ON THE CARD AND TO HAVE IT MAILED TO YOUR HOMES BY THE NATIVITY, ALL NAMES MUST BE RETURNED TO:

**Ladies Philoptochos Society**  
**Attention: Toly Svolos**  
**St. George Greek Orthodox Church**  
**107 Clinton Street**  
**Schenectady, NY 12305**

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PLEASE DETACH THIS FORM AND RETURN BY  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016

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(Please print your name as you wish it to appear on the Christmas Card)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO  
"LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY"



## Reminder to all Parishioners and Group Leaders

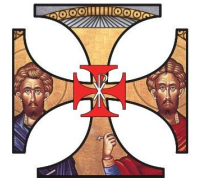
We are getting into the swing of a new program year, and the parish calendar is getting busy! For those impromptu meetings or group meetings that do not take place on a routine schedule, please remember to contact Camille in the parish office at 393-0742, to put your meeting date/time on the master calendar. We have plenty of room to accommodate everyone, and the administration just wants to be kept informed of what's happening and know who's on premises and when. Thank you!



Archbishop Demetrios

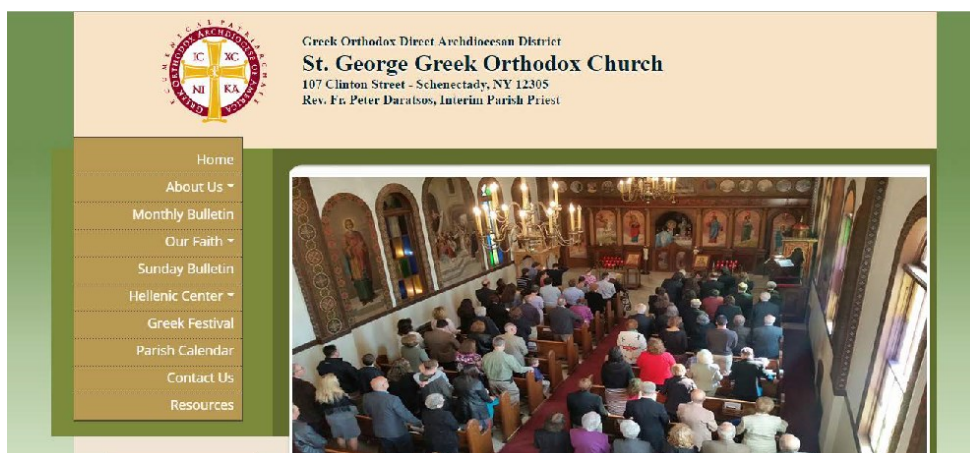
St. George Youth will partner with the Ladies Philoptochos Society in honoring His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios' Nameday on October 26th, in an Archdiocese-wide Philoptochos campaign to do 8,500 good deeds in commemoration of Philoptochos' 85th Anniversary! *The goal is to create a "sea of good deeds" from the hearts and hands of our children, guided by our stewards...no entity exemplifies "philanthropia" like the Philoptochos.*

PHILOPTOCHOS



The two groups will combine efforts to write and send 20 cards/gift cards to US Veterans, to thank them for their sacrifice for our freedom.

## Did you know that Philoptochos is the LARGEST Christian Women's organization in the United States?



Did you know you can now pay your stewardship or make donations online? Go to [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com), click the support our ministries tab on the right side of any page, and donate today! Donations are secure through a trusted Pay Pal account.

~ Alexandra Casey, Parish Treasurer





## Community News & Events

Congratulations to **Angelo and Alexandra Menagias** and **Ioannis and Aspasia Tsakopiakos** on the engagement of their children, *Zachary and Stavroula*. The “surprise” proposal took place on 7/27/16, on a beach last summer in Greece! *May God bless your new beginning!*

Congratulations to **Dennis and Barbara Spathis** on the July birth of their first grandchild, *Neoklis*, son of *Evangelos and Sophia Moshonisios*.



### Parish Christmas Card Sign-Up **November 1, 2016—December 11, 2016.**

St. George Youth Dance Troupe supporters will hold a costume planning meeting on **Wednesday, November 2nd, 2016 at 5:30 pm** in the Hellenic Center.

**Exploring our Roles as Fathers & Sons: Third Annual Archbishop Michael Memorial Men’s Retreat, Saturday, November 5, 2016, 9:30 am—3:00 pm** with retreat leader, His Grace Bishop Sevastianos of Zela. Retreat will be held at St. Basil’s Academy and is free of charge. Register at goarch.org. See the right-side column of main page.

Ladies Philoptochos Society will sponsor a **Mitten Tree** for children served by The City Mission of Schenectady from **November 6, 2016 to December 11, 2016.**

Ladies Philoptochos Society will commemorate their chapter name day (Sts. Kosmas and Damianos) on **Sunday, November 6, 2016.** A memorial service for deceased members will be chanted. Special tray collection for the Ecumenical Patriarchate.



**Festival Committee Wrap-up meeting, Monday, November 7th at 6 pm.** Please bring a dish to share for the pot-luck meal at 6 pm, followed by the meeting at 6:30 pm. See parish council page for more information.

**Parish Council Training Seminar** at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Albany, **Wednesday, November 9th, 6:30 pm.** Attendance is mandatory for parishioners wishing to run for election in December.

**Fellowship Group** will hold its regular meeting on **Thursday, November 10, 2016, at 11:30 am**, in the Hellenic Center. Please see Eliana Georgelos or Paul Pagiotas for more information.

**The Nativity Lenten Period begins November 15th.** Please contact the parish office to schedule appointments for Holy Confession, or speak with Father Peter directly.

Ladies Philoptochos Society will hold its regular business meeting on **Thursday, November 17th, 2016 at 6:30 pm** in the Hellenic Center.

Thomas Jones will sponsor the **Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, November 29th, 2016**, in memory of his beloved Father, *Ed Jones. May his memory be eternal.*

**Sunday School.** Children in kindergarten through 7th grade are invited to join Miss Athena in the upstairs classroom to learn about the life of Christ. We will depart from the church immediately after Holy Communion is offered/received. Sunday school will follow the school district schedule, so if there is a Friday or Monday holiday, we will not meet.

### Church Usher Schedule:

**Team B: 11/06**

**Team C: 11/13**

**Team D: 11/20**

**Team A: 11/27**



**Team A:** Charlie Koines (Captain), Norina McGowen, Phil McGowen, Bill Manikas.

**Team B:** Alexandra Casey (Captain), Lainie Christou, Pete Kalil, Scott Morlock.

**Team C:** Lucy Brady (Captain), Morgan Gazetos, Athena Pagnotti, Toly Svolos.

**Team D:** Gladys Paravalos (Captain), Steve Giakoumis, Panagiota Giakoumis, Steve Markopoulos



**Parish Council Candidate Seminar  
will be held at  
St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Albany  
on Wednesday, November 9th from 6:30—8:30 pm.**

St. George parish council will have **three (3) seats to fill**, with elections taking place during the December 4th General Assembly meeting.

If you would like to be considered for a seat on the council,  
**attendance at the November 9th seminar in Albany is MANDATORY.**

Please see Fr. Peter before the seminar to confirm your good standing,  
then Father will inform the election committee,

Joanne Diamantis and Paula Kingra. **We do require one additional person** to fulfill UPR requirements for the minimum three-person election committee. Please see Father Peter **ASAP** if you are willing to serve your parish in this effort.

For information on eligibility requirements please ask any council member or go to  
<http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/documents/pdf/2014-06-regulations.pdf>

Or view the Uniform Parish Regulations 2014 Revised (UPR) on file  
in the parish office ~ Article 25, pages 31—33.

**The cut-off date is November 15th  
for news & events submissions for our December 2016 issue.**

Please make efforts to plan accordingly for the next issue of our bulletin. Submit all entries in person to Athena Pagnotti, or via email (MS Word doc preferred) to [apagnott@nycap.rr.com](mailto:apagnott@nycap.rr.com).