

# Saint George Greek Orthodox Church

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



## 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.

## Forgive Me

Why can't we let those two words, "**Forgive Me**" pass our lips? In the course of a day we say so many words, many, if we could hear ourselves, would make us cringe with shame.

We may say "Sorry but..." or "Oops", but many times it is so much easier to say something crass. If I say "**Forgive me**" then it means that I am changing my position making me appear weak or that my argument or position is wrong. If I say "**Forgive me**" it means that I must change what I do. If I don't believe I must change - it is s/he who needs to change- then I don't need to say "**Forgive me**". What does that accomplish? Divisiveness? Negative feelings? Factions? Barriers to Love?

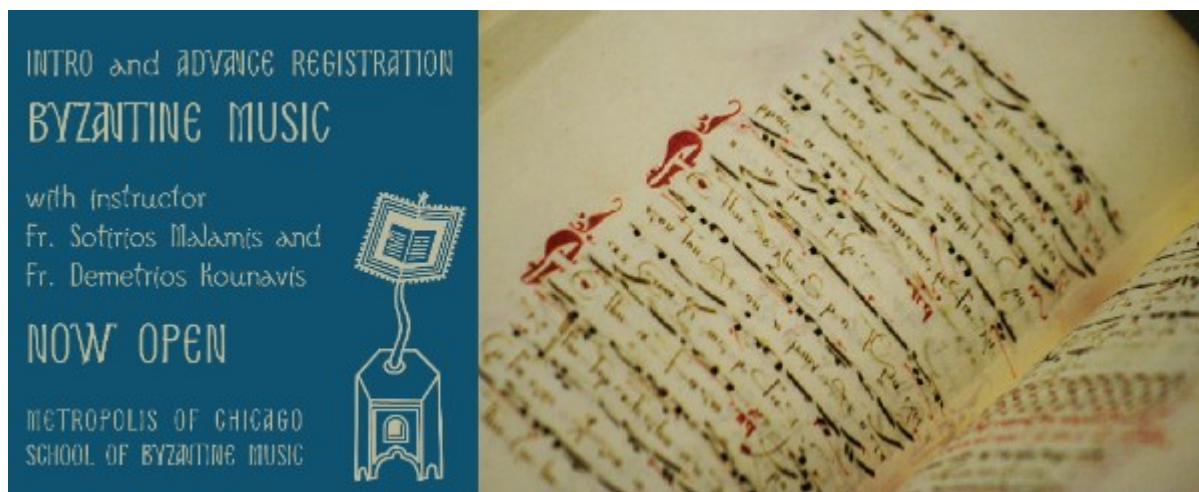
It is interesting that many of us who cannot say "**Forgive me**" to one another can come to Church, light a candle and ask The Lord for forgiveness. We know from the scripture that Christ can forgive those who are truly repentant in *word and actions*. To truly express forgiveness requires more than a candle and a prayer it requires each of us as simple human beings to grow with Christ in our daily lives. If we allow ourselves to know Christ and to live in Christ, change can take place. Our need to feel self-righteous can be tempered with repentance, that feeling of trusting in God. He will not allow us, when we are in a relation with him, to fall. A meaningful relationship with Christ makes daily stressors seem insignificant. Focusing on conflicts in our daily lives keep us from a meaningful relationship with Christ.

Do you wish for a meaningful relationship with Christ and people in your life? Allow "**Forgive me**" to pass your lips.

Fr. Peter Daratsos



*Father Peter leads the traditional Agiasmos Service in the Hellenic Center prior to the opening of the 41st Annual Greek Festival.*



## Metropolis of Chicago School of Byzantine Music

Fall 2016 News

**Registration is now open for the Fall 2016 Intro/Advance Courses in Byzantine Music School on the Metropolis of Chicago website.**

Study Advance Byzantine Music on-line with Fr Sotirios Malamis and Fr. Demetrios Kounavis.

**About the Classes:** These 10 session 45 min (Intro)/ 1 hr (Advance) classes will be taught as live on-line sessions on Tuesday (Intro/Wednesday (Advance) evenings. Class sessions will be recorded so that students can review past lessons at their own pace. Visit <http://chicago.goarch.org/learning-store> for more details about each class.

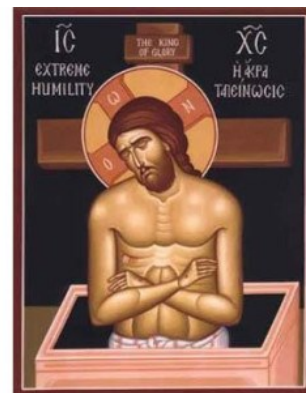
**Technical Information:** These classes will utilize the Adobe Connect framework. In order to view and participate you will need a high-speed internet connection. Please be aware that your online experience will be limited by the quality of your internet connection. Connection speeds can be unpredictable and are influenced by many factors, therefore we cannot offer technical support to class participants.

Because He offered himself up for us and our salvation...

What can we offer back to him?

~ Our Gifts!

...and He continues to love us unconditionally through His ultimate example of Extreme Humility.





## October 1st



### SAINT ROMANOS THE MELODIST

Saint Romanos the Melodist is the patron saint of church musicians. St. Romanos, surnamed *O Melodos* and *O Theorrheter*, was a poet of the 6<sup>th</sup> Century. The only authority for the life and date of this greatest of Greek hymn-writers is the account in the Menaion for October; his Feast Day is October 1<sup>st</sup>. According to this account, he was by birth a Syrian, served as deacon in the church at Berytus, and came to Constantinople in the reign of Anastasios. It was in the Church of the Most Holy Theotokos that he received the charisma of sacred poetry. “After a religious retreat at Blachernae, he returned to his church, and one night in his sleep, saw a vision of the Theotokos, who gave him a volume of paper saying, “Take the paper and eat it’.” In his dream, Romanos opened his mouth and swallowed the paper. It was Christmas Day, and immediately he awakened and marveled and glorified God. Then, mounting the ambo, he began the strains of his *I Parthenos Simeron ton Iperousion Tiktei*, the same Kontakion we sing today for the Nativity! He also wrote about one thousand other feast day kontakia before he died in 510 AD.

~Reprinted from National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (*the musical arm of the Archdiocese that strengthens and perpetuates Greek Orthodox liturgical music in America*)

The first Sunday on or after the Feast of St. Romanos (October 1<sup>st</sup>)  
is designated by our Archdiocese as

## **NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY**

Each year on this Sunday, we pause to honor  
the gifts and contributions of our church musicians ~  
clergy, choir directors, psaltai, choir members, organists,  
and Church School music educators.

This commemoration was inaugurated by His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos of  
North and South America in 1982, and has been reaffirmed by His Eminence,  
Archbishop Demetrios of America, Geron of America.



*National Church Music Sunday, October 4th 2015*

## *From the Parish Council*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Congratulations on another successful Greek Festival! Thank You to everyone who worked and supported our annual event. **A Festival Wrap-Up Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7th at 6 pm.** We will hear reports from booth leaders, and a preliminary financial report will be given. A full festival report will be given to parish members during the General Assembly meeting this December.

Nationally, our focus is on the nation's presidential candidates. Locally, I would remind everyone that we are also preparing for parish council elections. There are three (3) positions coming vacant. Any interested parishioner of St. George, who is in good standing, and who would serve in the parish council ministry is **REQUIRED** to attend the Archdiocese Parish Council Seminar scheduled (TBA) for early November at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Albany. Please look for date/time information to be posted on the Hellenic Center hallway bulletin board, or contact the parish office directly. **Any interested parishioner must first speak with Father Peter Daratsos regarding eligibility and purpose.** To learn about serving on the council, please visit the church website and view the Parish Council tab.

We continue to enjoy Father Peter as our Parish Priest, and I want to thank him for his efforts during festival weekend, as he led church tours with a total attendance of 125 people. Isn't that wonderful news! God bless you Father Peter. Thank you for all of your blessings and good works.

As this business year is fast drawing to a close, I want to take this opportunity to highlight some of the accomplishments of my fellow council members over the past year. Council members often work diligently and quietly behind the scenes, so here is a "glimpse" into some of their efforts and achievements:

**Lucy Brady, Vice President:** In addition to serving as the Stewardship Chairperson for the parish, Lucy sees every piece of business that crosses my desk and serves as consultant on all parish business matters. Her outreach to parishioners, and her gifts of listening and objective reasoning, have supported the success of the parish these past two years. Lucy's leadership accurately conveys a positive "well-being" in the parish. Lucy also led in security matters and community relations for the festival.

**Panagiota Giakoumis, Secretary:** Panagiota's attention to detail is vital in capturing the details of council actions and general assembly meetings. Her creative eye was instrumental in setting up the parish website and her working style lends itself to easy collaboration. Panagiota was instrumental in establishing connections with outside resources for the creation and maintenance of the new parish website. With a Christ-centered approach, Panagiota consulted on business matters while keeping the parishioners and the mission of our church at the forefront of her efforts. Panagiota co-led the efforts at the Pastry Booth for this year's festival.

**Alexandra Casey, Co-Treasurer:** Alexandra's seasoned skills at bookkeeping and business management brought a breath of freshness and ease to our business tasks. As an officer, her forward thinking and problem solving skills contributed to a good and stable foundation for an informed and active council. Alexandra played a key role in developing the Hellenic Center rental policy that is in effect today. Alexandra was a member of the festival finance team in addition to being chief liaison for festival entertainment.

**Ron Dikas, Co-Treasurer:** Ron's marketing abilities were instrumental to the success of the Indoor Yard and Bake Sale held last Spring. He rolled up his sleeves and helped to produce a fantastic St. George Dinner/Dance last Spring. In festival matters, Ron garnered advertisers and produced artwork for a terrific festival journal this fall. Ron was on stand-by to assist the Treasurer's office as needed, and contributed good sound practical approaches throughout the year in conducting parish business.



**Kyriako Contompasis, Member:** Kyriako's business acumen is vital to the success of the council. He has been instrumental in collaborating on matters of building maintenance, insurance review and contract negotiations. He offers pragmatic approaches to business solutions, and serves as a key advisor on all business matters. Kyriako led the efforts in beverage management for the festival.

**Maria Dostis-Koliatsis, Member:** Maria served as parish representative for the District Archdiocesan District Meeting downstate, last spring. Her established relationships with other Orthodox church leaders, Priests and Heirarchs, served our parish well in meeting deliberations. Maria has been an engaged council member this past year, often serving alongside me in weekday efforts to accomplish business tasks. Maria's efforts, as a member of the festival finance team, helped to balance the daily income to the penny!

**Morgan Gazetos, Member:** Morgan brings a high level of energy and a sharp business approach to managing the affairs of the parish. His counsel has been instrumental in negotiating some very challenging business matters, and his solution-focused approach propelled us towards many healthy resolutions. Morgan has been instrumental in collaborating on matters of building maintenance and property management. Morgan led the efforts for festival set-up and strike.

The chief characteristics that all of these council members share is trust, good communication practices, a willingness to support one another and hold one another accountable, and even educate one another when necessary. **The parish council is a ministry; and I believe that first, we must be willing to minister to one another, before we can minister to the congregation.** I like to think we have accomplished that over this past year. It is my hope and my prayer that this caliber of leadership will grow and continue into the years to come. Thank you, each one of you, for the special gifts that God has given to you, and that you have in turn, given to us.

One of the next major tasks that lies before the council is to interview and support the transition for a new, permanent, parish priest. The timing of this event is unknown, but action has taken place, and we will inform you as we learn more. The best way for parishioners to support, is to pray for us!

Remember to visit [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com) for 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

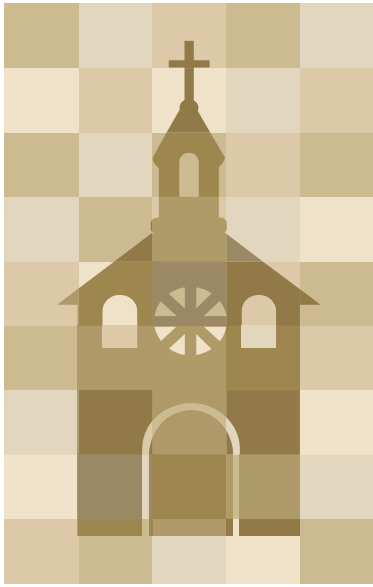
### ***St. George Greek Orthodox Church***

## **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.





***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: \$ 68,630.00

Total amount received to date: \$ 56,449.50

*~ As of September 26th ~*

Platinum Level Stewards \$1,500 +

Nine (9) Stewards

Gold Level Stewards \$1,000 — \$1,499

Fourteen (14) Stewards

Silver Level Stewards \$500 — \$999

Twenty-five (25) Stewards

Bronze Level Stewards \$499 or less

Sixty-eight (68)

### ***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



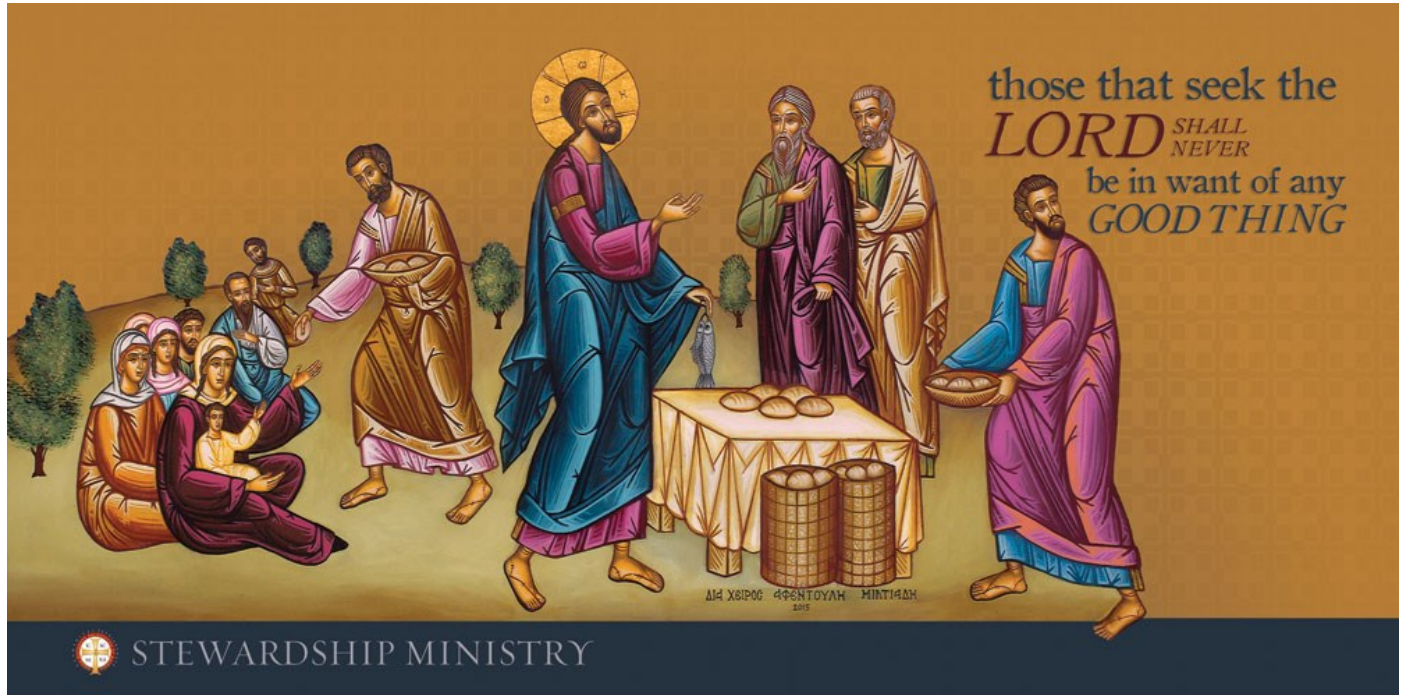
Chris & Joanne Dafniotis  
**Ciara D'Angelo**  
Olga Delorey  
**Joanne Diamantis**  
Marguerite Doulides  
**Angela Economou**  
Evan Euripidou  
**Michael & Elaine Euripidou**  
Morgan & Julie Gazetos  
**Demetrios Geanopoulos &  
KimAthena Kakos**  
**Helena Georgelas**  
Eliana Georgelos  
Panagiota 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 Koines**  
J. Maria Dostis-Koliatsis & Michael Koliatsis  
**Katina Kontakos**  
**Maria Kontakos**  
**Chris & Voula Kounoupis**  
Steven & Barbara Kouray  
**Barbara Koutsakis**  
Anna Ktenas  
**Patricia Lambert & Family**  
**Trifon & Zanetta 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**  
**Evangelo & Dina Nikolaidis**  
**Simeon & Barbara Nikolaidis**  
Katherine Orfan  
Paul & Joann Pagiotas  
Athena Pagnotti & Family  
**Peter & Penney Pagones**  
**Kostantinos & Debra Papanikos**  
**Nick & Gladys Paravalos**  
Frank & Teresa Rossetti  
**LeGrande Serras**  
Elena Sikamiotis  
**Ourania Sokaris**  
Roubina Spyros-Morgan  
Van & Anita Stathis  
Olga Stryjski  
George & Christie S. Svolos  
**Themetria Svolos**  
**Angela Theodore**  
Helen Trinci  
**Fanny Caraniakas-Walker**  
**Mark Wempe**  
**Brian & Megan Whipple**  
**Peter Wilson**  
**Peter Wilson & Family**  
**Mary Wilson**  
**Steve & Sophie Zanaros**  
**Anastasia Zoulas**  
**Peter & Mary Zoulas**

*Did you know that 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.*





To my fellow Parishioners and Families,

It is that time of year to plan for the **2017** Stewardship year.

In the past, we did not start the process until the actual year of Stewardship which made it somewhat challenging to plan the Budget for the year. We would like to start our Stewardship efforts a bit earlier this year. Father Peter and I plan to speak briefly about Stewardship after the liturgy during the month of October.

Please plan to complete your commitment cards by the end of December. Commitment cards will be available in November. As always, if you have any questions, please call or leave a message for me at (518) 393-0742, or e-mail me at [stewardship@saintgeorgegoc.com](mailto:stewardship@saintgeorgegoc.com).

Lucy Brady, Stewardship Chairperson

## FELLOWSHIP NEWS - OCTOBER 2016



The month of October brings us into the new fall season. After a long, hot but glorious summer, autumn is upon us. We can look forward to cooler days and the greenery of our bushes and trees being replaced by beautiful colors of red, orange and yellow.

October also means that our 41st annual Greek Festival is behind us. But what a festival it was! Prior to the opening, we all worked closely together in harmony, often to the point of exhaustion, with high hopes of a positive outcome. And we prevailed! St. George blessed us with perfect weather that brought huge crowds of people who came to enjoy our mouth watering food and pastries, our music and the ambience of “the Greek experience”. With Prometheus playing exciting Greek music that encouraged everyone onto the dance floor, and the St. George Youth dancers providing sensational entertainment, a great time was had by all who attended. Congratulations to everyone who worked tirelessly to make our festival such a huge success!

The Fellowship group suspends meetings during the months of August and September due to festival preparations. In August, many of our members attended the Lake George Dinner Theater’s production of “Almost Maine”, a delightful romantic comedy that provided us with many hilarious moments. We always enjoy attending these productions as the food and entertainment are top notch.

On the 13th of this month, in lieu of a regular meeting, our members and friends will again travel to Lake George to attend the dinner theater’s second production of the season, a comedy about : late in life: romance entitled, “Southern Comforts”. The drive to Lake George is beautiful at this time of year, so we always have a good turnout for the October show. Our November meeting will take place on Thursday, November 10th, at 11:30 AM at the Hellenic Center.



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 \$25.00 annually. Please contact our treasurer or either of our co-presidents, Paul Pagiotas or Eliana Georgelos, for more information.

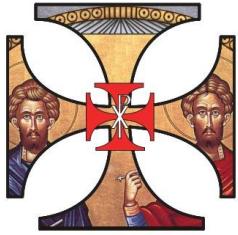
~ The Annual St. George Guest Speaker Series continues ~

**Save the date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 6 PM**

Guest Presenter will be announced via church website when confirmed. To learn more, visit [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com), and check the Hellenic Center bulletin board for updates.



PHILOPTOCHOS



**MEETING NOTES.** At the meeting held on **September 15, 2016** the membership approved the following donations:

**Retired Clergy & Widowed Presbyteres Benevolent Fund - National Philoptochos**

**Hellenic College/Holy Cross Scholarship Fund - National Philoptochos**

**Louisiana Flood Disaster Relief Fund – National Philoptochos**

**Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (Breast Cancer Research)**

**American Cancer Society – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer**

**Holy Cross Scholarship – Direct Archdiocesan District**

**St. George Greek Orthodox Church**

**International Orthodox Christian Charities - National Philoptochos**

**DAD UPSTATE MEETING.** On **Saturday, October 8, 2016, (1:00-4:00 pm)** the Direct Archdiocesan District (DAD) Philoptochos will hold an Upstate Regional Meeting – specifically for the Capital District chapters of St. George, St. Sophia and St. Basil. The meeting will take place at St. Sophia, 440 Whitehall Road, Albany. A light lunch will be served. The DAD Philoptochos President and Board Members will be present at this important meeting which will be open to all chapters in the Direct Archdiocesan District in addition to our three local chapters. Please contact Olga Delorey by phone (383-4737) or e-mail at [odelorey@nycap.rr.com](mailto:odelorey@nycap.rr.com) to confirm your attendance. **PLEASE make every effort to attend!**

**SUSAN G. KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE.** On **Saturday, October 1, 2016** the St. George Philoptochos will participate in the **Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (Family Walk)** at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY. We hope to assemble a large team of “walkers” in support of research to eliminate this dreadful disease. American Cancer Society statistics for 2016: 1 in 8 women (12%) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime; approximately 85% of breast cancers occur in women who have no family history of breast cancer; an estimated 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women, along with 61,000 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer; 2,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in men ; a man’s lifetime risk of breast cancer is about 1 in 1,000; there are more than 2.8 million women with a history of breast cancer in the U.S. which includes those currently being treated and women who have finished treatment. If you would like to support our team, please contact our Team Captain, Presbytera Nina Daratsos (878-6477). Donations will be accepted through October 31, 2016.

**MEMBERSHIP & PROJECTS.** As the days grow shorter and the autumn chill is in the air, it’s time to join us for another year of activities and fundraising events. In the next couple of months we will be announcing some new and fun projects! The Christmas Mitten Tree will return again this year!

Debuting this year will be the “heart pillow project” for cardiac patients recuperating from heart surgery. Another new project will be the “old shoe drive” to benefit the City Mission of Schenectady. The Food Pantry Basket will soon be placed in the Hellenic Center to help fill the shelves at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. So, if you haven’t attended meetings in a while, we hope you will return. If you are considering joining the Ladies Philoptochos Society, we invite you to attend a meeting so you can get an idea. We are grateful to everyone who pays their membership dues – but it is equally important to be an active participant by attending meetings, volunteering your time and sharing new ideas.

**SOUP KITCHEN.** The September Soup Kitchen will be held on September 27, 2016 and is being sponsored by Jan Gallas in memory of her beloved husband, John Gallas. Due to early print deadline, volunteers and meal information will be printed in the next bulletin.

**SOUP KITCHEN SPONSORSHIPS.** Soup Kitchen Sponsorships for the next nine (9) months (October 2016 through June 2017) are filled! We are grateful for the overwhelming response from our St. George community to support the Philoptochos in this important ministry. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who’ve made a commitment to sponsor a soup kitchen meal in memory of beloved family members. As we hear time and again from those who receive their meal at the soup kitchen window “may God bless you”.

*“...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*

**THANK YOU.** We thank our sisters at St. Sophia for inviting the St. George and St. Basil chapters to their Pot Luck Supper which took place on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. The meal was preceded by an Agiasmos Service in the church with priests from St. Sophia and St. George present. Our chapter was represented by Eliana Georgelos, Kathy Koines, Alice Giakoumis, Presbytera Nina Daratsos and Olga Delorey.

**NEXT MEETING.** Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 20, 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.

## From Father Peter's Desk ~

### AHEPA

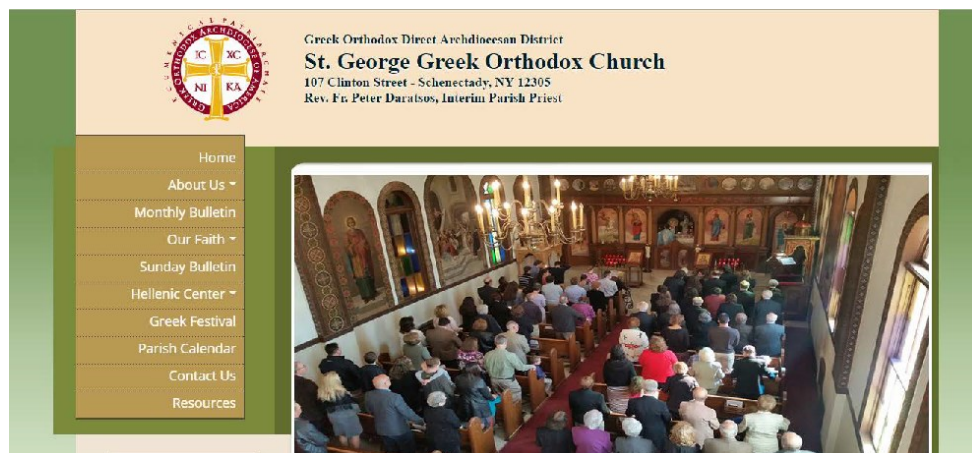
St. George Greek Orthodox Church is looking for a few good men to reactivate the AHEPA Chapter here in Schenectady.



### What is AHEPA?

The **American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA)** is by far the largest Greek-American organization. Its scope is international – with chapters in the United States, Canada, Australia and Greece. AHEPA was founded July 26, 1922, in Atlanta, Georgia, by visionary Americans of Greek descent to protect Hellenes from the evils of bigotry and to help assimilate them into American society in the early 20th Century. Although a majority of the membership is composed of Americans of Hellenic descent, application for membership is open to everyone who believes in the mission of the organization. The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

A few men, during our festival, expressed interest in getting together at the Blue Ribbon Diner to hear more about this worthwhile organization. Information on when this will take place will follow shortly. For now Mr. Steve Giakoumis offered to help organize the chapter.



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

A baby girl, *Sophia Fotini*, was born to **Jonathan and Amalia (Daratsos) Boyer** on March 12th, 2016 in Baltimore, MD. A baby boy, *George James Daratsos*, was born to **Basil and Elizabeth Daratsos** on June 18th, 2016 in San Diego, CA. Proud Papou and Yia Yia are **Father Peter and Presbytera Nina Daratsos**. *Congratulations!*

**Mr. Stephen J. Lambrinos**, beloved son of James Lambrinos and Georgia Pallas Plakas, fell asleep in the Lord on August 4th, 2016, at the age of 34. *May his memory be eternal!*

**Mr. Christos Damaskos**, beloved Father of Laine Damaskos Christou, and beloved husband of Norma Damaskos, fell asleep in the Lord on August 7th, 2016, at the age of 82. The funeral was celebrated on August 12th at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church in Albany. *May his memory be eternal!*

The **Ladies Philoptochos Society** will participate in *Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure* on **Saturday, October 1st, 2016, at 9 am.** (Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY)

**National Church Music Sunday** will be commemorated on **Sunday, October 2, 2016.**

**Fellowship Group Outing, October 13, 2016**, to the Lake George Dinner Theater's production of "*Southern Comforts*". **This event is open to the community.** Please see Eliana Georgelos for more information.

The **Ladies Philoptochos Society** will hold its regular business meeting on **Thursday, October 20th, 2016 at 6:30 pm** in the Hellenic Center.

Anna Ktenas will sponsor the **Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, October 25th, 2016, in Memory of Beloved Husband Dimitrios Ktenas.**

**Sunday School will resume on Sunday, October 2nd.** 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.

**Direct Archdiocesan District Ladies Philoptochos Society** will hold its **Regional Meeting on Saturday, October 8th, 2016 from 1-4 PM**, at St. Sophia Church in Albany, NY. See Olga Delorey for more information.

The annual St. George **Guest Speaker Series will take place Wednesday, October 19, 2016.** Guest presenter: TBA. Check the church website [www.saintgeorgegoc.com](http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com) for updates and information.



**St. George Youth Groups (all)** will hold its annual **Fall Farm Outing on Sunday, October 30, 2016.** This year we will visit Ellms Family Farm in Ballston Spa. Look for your e-vite soon and RSVP ASAP. Or, please see Lucy Goodale for more information.

**GOYA/JOY/HOPE/Angels Advisors** and Father Peter are busy planning the Youth Groups schedule for the year ahead. Please look for more information in the next issue of the community bulletin.

There will be a brief meeting for all **Church Ushers on Sunday, October 23rd**, during coffee hour. Please make every effort to attend.

### Church Usher Schedule:

**Team A: 10/02 & 10/30**

**Team B: 10/09**

**Team C: 10/16**

**Team D: 10/23**



**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

## **Attention!!!**

**Festival Planning Committee Members  
and Festival Workers/Volunteers,  
save the date and join us for the ...**



## **Festival Wrap-Up Meeting and Pot Luck Supper**

**Monday, November 7th**

**6 pm ~ Hellenic Center**

**Casseroles and crock-pots are invited too ~**

**See Athena to sign up.**

A complete Festival Report will be given to parish members at the upcoming  
General Assembly Meeting in December.

**The cut-off date is October 15th**

**for news & events submissions for our November 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).