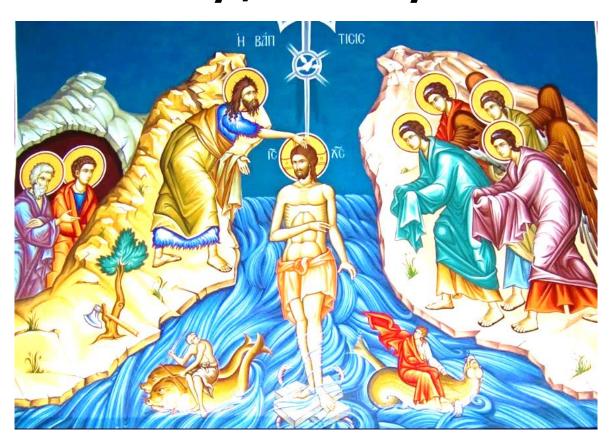


## THE TRIUMPHANT

#### **Saint George Greek Orthodox Church**

Father Neofitos Sarigiannis frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com www.saintgeorgegoc.com

## January / February 2023



#### **EPIPHANY- BLESSING OF THE WATERS**

Date: Sunday, January 8th at 12:00 pm after services and coffee hour

Location: The Harbor and Amphitheater (by the River's Casino)

151 Harborside Drive, Schenectady, NY 12305 Come join us as we bless the waters of the Mohawk River (Dress Warmly)









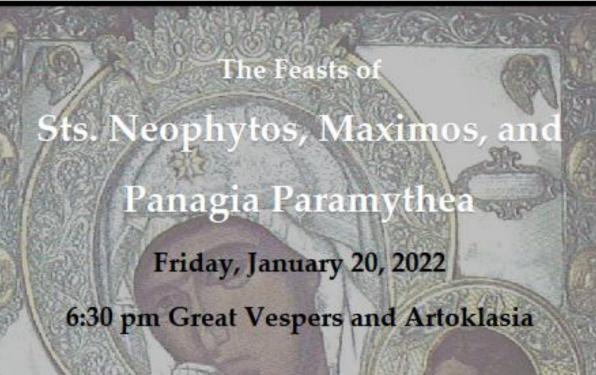
## January 2023

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednes<br>day  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday   |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1 Circumcision of<br>Christ<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>Vasilopita Cutting<br>Special tray<br>collection for St.<br>Basil's Academy<br>New Year's Day           | 2   | 5:30pm Youth Group<br>Meeting via Zoom   | 5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom<br>5:30pm Philoptochos<br>Chapter Holiday<br>Dinner Party at<br>Bellevue Cafe | 5<br>7:30am Royal Hours<br>of the Epiphany –<br>Vesperal<br>Liturgy   | 8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy                          | Feastday of<br>St. John the Baptist<br>8:30 am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy   |  |
| Sunday after<br>Epiphany<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>12pm Blessing of the<br>Mohawk Riber   | 5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club       | 5:30pm Youth Group<br>Meeting via Zoom   | 11<br>5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom   | 12<br>11:30am Senior<br>Fellowship<br>Meeting<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School   | 13  | 14   |  |
| 15 12th Sunday of<br>Luke<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>Memorial for<br>Athanasios<br>Stamoulis<br>PC Affirmation<br>Trisagion for Family<br>of Frusina Ica Iancu | 16<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | Feast of St. Anthony<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>7:00am Soup<br>Kitchen<br>5:30pm Youth Group<br>Meeting via Zoom | 18 Feast of St. Athanasios 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5:00pm Adult Greek Class Via Zoom                  | 19<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School  | 20<br>St. Neophytos tne<br>Martyr<br>6:30pm Vespers &<br>Artoklasia | Peastday of St. Neophytos & St. Maximos 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy  Tri-City Philoptochos Winter Luncheon 1 pm Italian American Comm. Center |  |
| 22<br>15th Sunday of Luke<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>Philoptochos<br>Meeting 12:15 pm  | 23<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 24 5:30pm Youth Group Meeting via Zoom 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting   | Peast of St Gregory<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom          | 26<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School  | 27  | 28<br>11:00am – 1:00pm<br>Philoptochos District<br>Meeting   |  |
| 29 Sunday of the<br>Canaanite Woman<br>Teaching Liturgy<br>Part 2<br>8:00am Orthros<br>9:00am Divine<br>Liturgy  | 30<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 31<br>5:30pm Youth Group<br>Meeting via Zoom   | Feb 1  | Presentation of Our<br>Lord in the Temple<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School | 3   | 4  |  |



## February 2023

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday                 | Wednes<br>day                              | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|---|---|-------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 29 Sunday of the<br>Canaanite Woman<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy   | 30<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 31                      | 1<br>St. Tryphon the<br>Martyr             | Presentation of Our<br>Lord in the Temple<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School | 3   | 4   |
| <b>5</b> Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee Triodion Begins 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Go Red for Women Sunday   | 5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club       | 7                       | 8<br>5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom  | 9<br>11:30am Senior<br>Fellowship Meeting<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School   | 10 Feast of<br>St Charalambos<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy | 11  |
| Sunday of the Prodigal Son 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Youth Bowling Party   | 13<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 14                      | 15<br>5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom | 16<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School  | 17  | 18 1st Saturday of<br>Souls<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy |
| 19 Judgment<br>Sunday (Meatfare<br>Sunday)<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy<br>Trisagion Service for<br>Athena Loukas                                    | 20<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 21<br>Soup Kitchen 7 am | 22<br>5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom | 23<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School  | 24  | 25 2nd Saturday<br>of Souls<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy |
| 26 Forgiveness Sunday- Cheesefare Sunday  12:15pm Philoptochos Meeting  6:00pm Sunday Vespers (Κατανυκτικός Εσπερινός) Lenten Meal Hosted by Our Parish after Vespers | 27<br>5:30pm Paraklesis to<br>the Virgin Mary<br>6:30pm Book Club | 28                      | 5:00pm Adult Greek<br>Class Via Zoom       | 2<br>4:30pm Greek<br>School   | 3<br>6:30pm<br>1st Salutations to the<br>Virgin Mary                        | 4 3rd Saturday of<br>Souls<br>8:30am Orthros<br>9:30am Divine<br>Liturgy  |



Saturday, January 21, 2022
8:30 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy
Followed by refreshments
in the Hellenic Center





#### From the desk of Fr. Neofitos

OPΘOΔOΞIA = OPΘOΠPAΞIA, Orthodoxy = Orthopraxy (right faith – right action)

In our last issue I wrote:

"What shall I render to the Lord for all His gifts He has given to me? (English) τi ἀνταποδώσω τῷ Κυρίῳ περὶ πάντων, ὧν ἀνταπέδωκἑ μοι; (Greek)

The answers I proposed were gratitude, time, fasting, sacraments, service, community, talents, and treasure. Orthodoxy is more than just a set of beliefs and rules. It is a way of life. It is a set of Liturgical actions which spark our faith and bring us closer to letting God's light into our souls. Some of these specific actions will be outlined in this section of our bulletin throughout the year. Our November/ December issue covered these offerings: Names for prayers for the living and reposed (Υπέρ Υγείας – Health & Υπέρ Αναπαύσεως – Reposed), Prosforo, Communion Wine, Altar Vigil Lamp, Incense, Koliva, and Artoklasia. The Descriptions are available in our last issue or on this link: <a href="https://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/bi-monthly-newsletter/">https://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/bi-monthly-newsletter/</a>

In this issue I would like to focus on our children. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14 St. Neophytos, my saint, was a pious child and was martyred for Christ when he was 15 years old. He is an inspiration for us and of course for our children. Pious parents make for pious children. Purity, simplicity, humility, and compassion were Some of Saint Neophytos' key virtues.

St Neophytos worked 2 miracles of compassion at the young age of nine. Feeding the hungry was always in his heart. Once, as some young children were gathering to look for food in the streets, the Saint was sad that he had no food to give them. He prayed to the Almighty God and in HIS name came forth gushing out water and milk from a boulder just like Moses in the dessert.

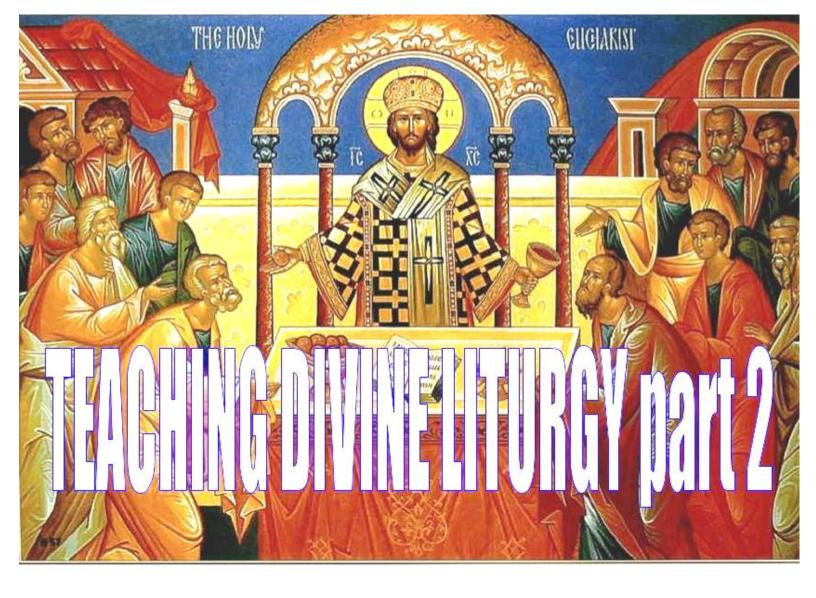
Later on that year, a dove appeared above his bed- it is depicted also in his icon on his shoulder, and the it spoke to his mother. In shock at hearing a human voice come from the bird, Neophyto's mom fainted and died. Friends and family were deeply saddened and gathered to console the family but - the saint had no fear.

He believed that the Lord would grant his mother life again. He told his father to ask everyone to leave. He knelt and invoked the Lord Jesus Christ's name and with his fervent prayer told His mother to GET UP from her sleep. And indeed, she rose. Few saints have performed such a miracle. The resurrection of his mother caused a great commotion and many flocked to come meet this wondrous child. The young man was instructed by the angelic bird to go and dwell in a cave on Mount Olympus. To live as a hermit. This way he could also keep his family free of harm and not attract extra attention lest they be discovered as Christians. During this time in history, it was illegal to be a Christian.

Arriving at the cave, the Saint found a lion and very tenderly asked him to leave so he can live there. And miraculously the lion was obedient. The saint was fed by God, and he found peace and tranquility. As he matured, He returned home to ask his parents to sell his possessions and inheritance and give it to the poor. In his 15th year of life, he came down once again from the mountain and answered the call of martyrdom.

At that time, Governor Maximian was a fierce anti-Christian ruler. He walked into the arena and proclaimed he was a Christian. Enraged, the governor made sure he underwent many tortures. He tried to make an example of him. However, it was Neofitos who showed everyone the power of our Lord. Nothing would harm or kill the young man. They even tried to feed him to a lion. Once the lion was unleashed, it approached the Saint and started playing with him as if it was a puppy. Our Lord who is God of heaven and earth had so connected Saint Neophytos to nature that even this wild animal became docile at his command. It was the same lion from the cave from years before. St. Neophytos' life ended when Maximian speared him in the heart with prideful rage.

For us today, saints' lives can be an inspiration. I pray his Purity, simplicity, humility, bravery, and philanthropic compassion help us draw near to the Glory of our Lord. Our children need to be offered to the Lord so they can learn the ways of God. The offering of our time and resources includes offering our families to our church. The future of the church of Christ depends on us. Our beautiful space here is starving for youth activity. Most importantly, our youth need to be in a Christian space with other families which share the same God-fearing values. The Orthodox path begins in this life and more specifically in church. What is our vision for the future of Saint George? What service can we offer back to God? What can we offer His people? This Christmas, we pray God's light brings us these answers.



## SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 8:00 AM ORTHROS 9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY

## **LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR MAIN WORSHIP SERVICE**

For children and adults. All are welcome.

St. George Greek Orthodox Church Schenectady, NY





# ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURE





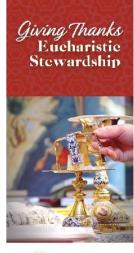






We enter our spiritual home not to be entertain but to be a part of a community of believers. We receive Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. As we pray, worship and serve together, we become His Body. To be truly a member of the Church as Body of Christ requires our presence and our engagement with one another — in worship, study and service to others. We grow spiritually as a family. We give sacrificially as we acknowledge that all we have comes from God.

planned giving





PLEDGE CARD 2023

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to all those who attended our Stewardship Sunday on December 4<sup>th</sup>. I wanted to share a few highlights from our presentation.

Our new Stewardship pledge form for 2023 is below. We

- 1) All families fill out the new pledge form and especially the Time and Talent section. We would like to inventory all your talents and skills you are capable of and wish to offer your church when able.
- 2) Please consider your giving level. This is a mere guide:

\$2000 is \$38.46 per week \$1500 is \$28.84 per week \$1000 is \$19.23 per week \$750 is \$14.42 per week \$500 is \$9.61 per week \$400 is \$7.69 per week

3) Please return the pledge form to the office via mail, email, or walk it in.

Our God has given us everything. What do we give back? Thank you for considering your 2023 pledge. May God guide our hearts.

Respectfully, Fr. Neofitos

#### Information | If you are already a member please fill out the shaded ar

treasure

☐ One Time

for 2023:

" \_\_\_ I would like to speak with someone

about how to remember the church in my will, trust, or estate plan."

| momanon                  | please introduction and areas |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                          |                               |
| NAME                     | STEWARDSHIP NUMBER            |
| BAPTIZED ORTHODOX? yes   | но                            |
| NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRI | ED)                           |
| BAPTIZED ORTHODOX? yes   |                               |
|                          |                               |
| STREET ADDRESS           |                               |
| CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE  |                               |
|                          |                               |
| MOBILE PHONE             |                               |
|                          | □ves □no                      |
| FMAIL ADDRESS MAY        | WE ADD YOU TO OUR EMAIL LIST? |
|                          |                               |
| EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE  | (IF MARRIED)                  |
| OCCUPATION               |                               |
| Dependent Children's 1   | names and birthdates:         |
|                          |                               |
|                          |                               |
|                          |                               |

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit

to Christ and His Church the following amount

□ weekly □ monthly □ quarterly

#### Treasure

Yearly Income Percentage Guide to Giving

| Yearly<br>Income | 1%      | 2%      | 3%      | 5%      | 10%<br>(Tithing) |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|
| \$10,000         | \$100   | \$200   | \$300   | \$500   | \$1,000          |
| \$15,000         | \$150   | \$300   | \$450   | \$750   | \$1,500          |
| \$20,000         | \$200   | \$400   | \$600   | \$1,000 | \$2,000          |
| \$30,000         | \$300   | \$600   | \$900   | \$1,500 | \$3,000          |
| \$40,000         | \$400   | \$800   | \$1200  | \$2,000 | \$4,000          |
| \$50,000         | \$500   | \$1,000 | \$1,500 | \$2,500 | \$5,000          |
| \$100,000        | \$1,000 | \$2,000 | \$3,000 | \$5,000 | \$10,000         |

(pledge)

Leviticus 27:30 "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord: it is holy to the Lord."

Challenge: Could you give \$20 each week?

#### BUDGET

Our annual expenses for 2023 will be approximately \$382,000.

Stewardship donations in 2022 were approximately \$80,000.

Please consider your giving level:

\$2000 is \$38.46 per week \$1500 is \$28.84 per week \$1000 is \$19.23 per week \$750 is \$14.42 per week \$500 is \$9.61 per week

\$400 is \$7.69 per week Are you giving back to God as you have been blessed? The average pledge at our church for 2022 is \$656.

When was the last time you increased your giving to our church?

Could you give \$20 each week?

#### Time & Talent

It is important to give our time and talent as well as our freasure

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (√).

Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for

| wife or "C" for children.  |  |
|--|--|
| EDUCATIONBible StudyIntro to OrthodoxyPublicationsSpeakersBookstore  YOUTHDance TroupeGreek School TeacherGreek School BoardSunday School TeacherYouth AdvisorYouth GroupYoung Adults  | LITURCICALAlar boys / AcolytesChoirChartingReaderGreeter UsherBaking ProsforonKoliva makerArtoklasia makerArtoklasia maker  MINISTRIES & PROGRAMSWelcome TeamOutreachStewardshipCoffee Hour/HospitalityVisitation - Hospital   |
| BUILDING & GROUNDS Garden & Landscape Plumbing Electrical Event Clean-up/Set-up Interior Repairs Exterior Repairs Roofing Hall Rentals Handyman "Thursday Moming Boys" Building and Grounds Volunteers  ADMINISTRATION Parish Council Development / Fundraising Office help Computer / Technical | Philoptochos – Soup Kitchen Prison Ministry Grief Berenvement Group Blood Drives Project Mexico Int 1 Orth Christian Charities OCMC Mission Center Seniors Ministry (Fellowship) Fundraising Friends of St. George Order of AHEPA  COMMUNICATIONS Web site & E-mail Graphic Design Bulletin & Newsletter Public Relations Data Entry |

Any other talents or information you wish to list:

## WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

#### **2022 Stewardship Pledges**

We are grateful for those members listed below who have submitted their 2022 stewardship pledge as of December 20, 2022. Your continued and consistent support will help our church continue to grow and prosper. To become a full member of our church, please fill out the Pledge form on the next page and return it to the office.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Adamec Mr. & Mrs. George Alatzas Mr. & Mrs. Peter Andrikopoulos Ms. Sonia Andrikopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Arrington

Mr. John Behiri

Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Behiri

Ms. Susan Birbilis
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Brady
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Bratsos
Mrs. Ifigenia Brown
Ms. Arji Cakouros
Dr. Fanny Caranikas
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Chamberas

Mr. Andreas & Mrs. Sophia Christou

Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Christou

Ms. Ariana Christou

Mr. & Mrs. Euripides Christou Mrs. Patricia Chryssovergis Mrs. Catherine Contompasis Ms. Cathy Contompasis

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Contompasis Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Contompasis

Miss Demetra Corsones
Dr. & Mrs. Peter Cospito
Mr. & Mrs. George Cotzas
Mrs. Rena Counavelis
Mrs. Joanne Dafniotis
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew D'Aurizio
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Deligiannis

Ms. Linda Davison Ms. Olga Delorey Mr. Gerry Dermetzys Miss Joanne Diamantis Mrs. Katina Dikas & Family

Mrs. Mary Dikas Mr. Takis Dikas Ms. Maria Dostis

Mrs. Marguerite Doulides Ms. Daphne Economou Mr. & Mrs. Brad Engwer Mr. & Mrs. Michael Euripidou Mr. & Mrs. Dimitris Filippis

Mrs. Janet Gallas
Mr. Art Georgelas
Mrs. Helena Georgelas
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Georgelas
Ms. Nicole Georgelas
Mrs. Eliana Georgelos
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Giakoumis
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Goodale & Family

Mrs. Nancy Grivas Ms. Dimitria Haridimos Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hogan Mr. & Mrs. Owen Huggins Mrs. Frucina Ica Iancu Dr. & Mrs. Phillip James

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Jones & Family

Mrs. Catherine Julius Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kalil Mrs. Evangelia Kalogeras Ms. Antonia Kananis Mr. Evan Kananis Mrs. Fanny Karamanos Mr. & Mrs. John Kennedy Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Kolios Mrs. Katina Kontakos

Mrs. Katina Kontakos
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Kounoupis
Ms. Kaliopi Kounoupis
Mrs. Voula Kounoupis
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kouray
Mr. & Mrs. H. Koutsopoulos
Mr. & Mrs. David Lambert
Mr. & Mrs. Trifon Laskaris
Mr. & Mrs. Paul LaViolette

Ms. Christine Legorius Mrs. Rosemary Legorius Mr. & Mrs. Paul LeMire Mr. William Manikas Mrs. Akrivi Markopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitryos Markopoulos

Mr. Steve Mastromichalis
Mr. & Mrs. William McDonald
Mr. & Mrs. Philip McGowen
Mrs. Cathy Menagias
Ms. Corina Menagias
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Menagias
Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Menagias
Mr. Demetrios Michael
Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morlock
Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Nikolaidis

Mr. Simeon Nikolaidis
Mr. Constantine Orfan
Mrs. Katherine Orfan
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pagiotas

Mr. & Mrs. Vito Pagnotti & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pagones

Mr. & Mrs. Konstantinos Papanikos

Mr. & Mrs. Nick Paravalos Ms. Voula Paravalos Mr. & Mrs. Frank Rosetti

Fr. Neofitos & Pres. Catherine Sarigiannis &

Family

Mr. Louis LeGrande Serras Mrs. Elena Sikamiotis Mrs. Ourania Sokaris Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Sokaris & Family

Mrs. Roubina Spyros-Morgan

Ms. Maria Stamoulis Mrs. Stavroula Stamoulis Mr. & Mrs. Van Stathis Mr. James Stevens

Mrs. Olga Stryjski Mrs. Themetria Svolos Ms. Melissa Verrigni

Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Vlahakis Mr. & Mrs. Brian Whipple Mrs. Sophia Zanaros Mrs. Anastasia Zoulas

#### Did You Know?

Did you know that we have a Google calendar?

If you are wondering when services are or if there are services on any given day, you can check out our calendar right on our website.

https://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/calendar/google-calendar

Did you know you can add our St. George Google Calendar to your calendars to view on your phone or device?

When you are in the page above, click on the icon in the lower- right corner and add our calendar to yours.

Never miss an event!
Be aware of what is happening in our facility, church, and the Hellenic Center.







In an effort to promote unity and filendship among our Philoptochos chapters, the Direct Archdiocesan District Philoptochos will be hosting a series of events with participating chapters from October 2022 to April 2023.

# Sisterhood of the Traveling Philoptochos



All philoptochos sisters are invited to come to any or all of these social gatherings in various regions throughout the district. These events are free and purely social, for a little brainstorming, questions, answers, and just getting to know each other.

#### UPCOMING DATES:

Saturday, January. 21, 2023 – 11 AM-12M Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 20 Field Avenue. Hicksville, NY 11801 Saturday, January, 28, 2023 – Ilam-lem St. George Greek Orthodox Church 107 Clinton St, Schenectady, NY 12305

#### With more dates and locations up to April 2023!

For more info or to RSVP please contact:

Athina Beaury Irene Hotzoglou

Email: athinamebile@gmail.com Cell: 5[6-330-2299

Raffles will be sold to help support our District's Social Service Ministries, of course

## Philoptochos Post Holiday Dinner

At Bellevue Café - 2630 Broadway, Schenectady, NY
Everyone invited Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 5:30 PM
Greek Roast Chicken, Haddock, Sirloin of Beef
\$29 per person - tip to be left personally
Checks made out to Bellevue Café
RSVP to Jan Gallas or pay at the restaurant.



#### PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

By Jan Gallas

#### SEASONS GREETINGS to ALL

The song goes "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" and when you receive this newsletter, we will be well into the celebrating for 2022 going directly into a Happy and Healthy New Year 2023.

This year's Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner and Auction yielded a higher profit than ever before. We must be doing something right. Auction items this year were wonderful and varied - something for everyone. Sincere appreciation to those who supported or worked at this fundraiser.

The Mitten Tree where we hung special hats/scarves/mittens was overflowing with bright colorful items to donate to the children of the City Mission of Schenectady. We sincerely appreciate those who signed up to have their name on this year's Community Christmas Card. Be sure to look for yours in the coming mail. November and December were two months of "working for and donating to" our charities with friends in need.

We are planning a Post-Holiday Dinner for everyone on January 4 at Bellevue Café. I'm sure you've heard about it. If not, you have until December 30, 2022 to reserve a spot.

We plan to attend the Holiday Lunch sponsored by our Philoptochos friends at St. Sophia on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at the Italian American Center. Please plan to join all three local Philoptochos and Daughters Chapters.

We'll begin our regular meetings again on January 22, 2023 in the Hellenic Center at 12:15 pm. We shall host a District Philoptochos meeting on Saturday, January 28, 2023 from 11 am to 3 pm. This is a perfect time to learn from District Philoptochos members what is happening?? A Brunch will be prepared by all 3 Chapters. What a wonderful way to learn and share with other Philoptochos members. We are all part of the "Sisterhood of the Traveling Philoptochos". As always we welcome new members to Philoptochos. Don't wait to be "asked" to join. Step up and start 2023 by volunteering and assisting us in working for our charities. January begins a

From everyone in our St. George Ladies Philoptochos Society we wish you and yours a

new year of joining and paying dues for the year.

Happy Holiday Season.



## \$40 per person

**Meal Choices:** 

Grilled Salmon Sliced Roast Sirloin Eggplant Roulade

Please RSVP by Tuesday. Jan.10th
RSVP <u>Click Here</u> for Online
or Call/text
Lea Marinopoulos 518-528-4984

## Scan here to RSVP online





Please make checks payable to Philoptochos & Submit payment to:

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church Tri-City Luncheon. 440 Whitehall Rd. Albany, NY 12208



The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mitten Tree sponsored by Ladies Philoptochos. A total of 122 mittens, hats and scarves were delivered to the City Mission of Schenectady.



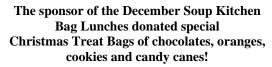


Spagetti Luncheon Sunday, November 13, 2022











St. Nektarios Feast Day Artoklasia







#### **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

By Eliana Georgelos

HAPPY NEW YEAR from the Fellowship group!

Where has 2022 gone? The older we are, the faster time flies by! And now we are beginning a new year. We wish all our St. George family peace and good health in the coming year of 2023!

The Fellowship group enjoyed a fun-filled Christmas party at the Bellevue Cafe on December 8th. Twenty-seven people attended and we enjoyed playing Christmas games, winning prizes and, of course, good food. However, we missed the presence of Paul and Joanne Pagiotas due to Paul's hospitalization at Albany Medical Center. Paul fell at home and broke three vertebrae in his back. He has since been transferred to the Schuyler Ridge Nursing facility in Clifton Park for physical therapy. Visitors are permitted at Schuyler Ridge and Paul would welcome visits and/or phone calls from his friends. Also missing from our Christmas party was our good friend Olga Delorey, who had recently tested positive for Covid. In her absence, Jan Gallas and Pat Lambert were kind enough to take photos of our group which can be seen on our church web site and are also posted below.

Many of our Fellowship members have been involved in the other Christmas activities of our church. The Holiday Boutique craft fair and Greek pastry sale on December 10th soon followed our Fellowship Christmas party. The boutique was perfectly organized by Jan Gallas and manned by many Fellowship members, including Gladys, Dina, Zanetta and Eliana. The next day at coffee hour, we celebrated the birthday of our beloved Mary Wilson with a decorated birthday cake. And the following Sunday, December 18th brought the Christmas pageant which showcased the talents of our Greek school children and featured a visit from Santa Claus. Our Mr. Claus, Fellowship member Pete Kalil, did the honors and brought much joy and excitement to the children with the gifts he presented to each of them!

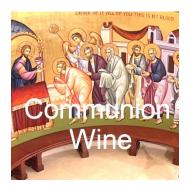
It is with a mixture of joy and sadness that we say goodbye to our beloved Jim and Teresa Rossetti. Sadness because we will miss them, but joy because they will be in their new home in Pittsburgh close to their son, Dr. James (Fr. Deacon Seraphim) and his family. Jim and Teresa have sold their home in Schenectady and, in their. Pittsburgh home, will be within walking distance to James, Anna and their five granddaughters. The Fellowship group extends our very best wishes to the Rossettis for much joy and good health in their new home. We look forward to seeing them every so often when they return to Schenectady to visit their daughter Dina and her family.

Church services celebrating the birth of Christ were followed in January with the feast of Holy Theophany (Epiphany) on January 6th. This Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. At the Baptism of Christ, all three Persons of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—were made manifest. Thus, this Feast is called either Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God. We hope to see you all in church as Father Neofitos conducts the service of the Blessing of the Waters. On January 8th, Father will throw a cross into the river at Mohawk Harbor behind the Rivers Casino to bless the waters of the Mohawk River. And in February, we not only celebrate Valentines Day on the 14th, but also close out the month with the start of the Lenten fast on February 27. Our next Fellowship meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am and will include an entree, a Greek salad, rolls, butter and dessert. A reminder that we have increased the price of our lunches from \$3 to \$5 per person to cover the ever-increasing cost of food. Annual dues remain at \$25 per couple or individual and are collected in March. As always, we welcome all St. George parishioners to our group. Please see Eliana if you would like to join us.

Let us pray that 2023 brings us all God's blessings for a year of good health and good cheer. May we continue to enjoy the love of our family and close friends throughout the year!



## **Liturgical Offerings**



Communion Wine \$20.00



Altar Vigil Lamp Candle –

Ακοίμητον (for 1 week) \$20.00



Prosforo \$20.00



Altar Incense Offering -Μοσχοθυμίαμα

\$20.00 - \$50.00



Koliva - Memorial for the Departed \$100.00



Artoklasia- \$50.00

You can also visit our Square site and make your donations online.

https://st-george-greekorthodoxchurch.square.site/

#### To place an order and make your donation, please fill out the form below.

| ltem | Donation |  |  |
|------|----------|--|--|
|      |          |  |  |
|      |          |  |  |

## **Theophany Service Schedule 2023**

**Thursday, January 5** Eve of Holy Theophany

7:30 am - 10:30 am Royal Hours of Epiphany and Vesperal Liturgy with

Great Blessing of the Waters

Friday, January 6 Holy Theophany

8:30 Orthros

9:30 Divine Liturgy Lord and Great Blessing of the Waters

Blessing of the Mohawk River

**Saturday, January 7** Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

8:30 am Orthros

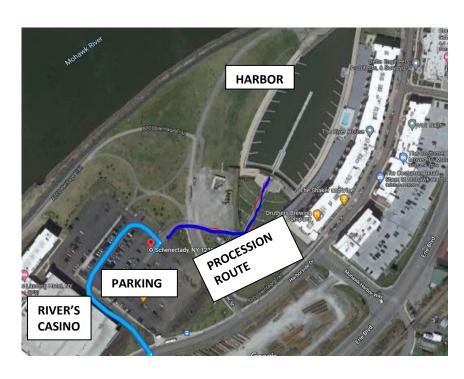
9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Our Sunday service hours are: Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Sunday, January 8** 8:30 am – 11:00 am Orthros & Divine Liturgy and coffee hour.

Rivers Casino & Community Planting Sallege Park Bus Tavern

## EPIPHANY- BLESSING OF THE WATERS





## House Blessings

It is customary each year during the season of Holy Theophany for all Orthodox Christians to have their home and place of business blessed by their priest. The yearly blessing of homes at the Feast of the Theophany touches our daily lives with the sanctifying water in which our Lord was baptized. In blessing a home, the Church asks God to drive away every evil influence from our home and those who live in it, and to renew with extra vigor the influence of the Holy Spirit in our homes and lives. The Fathers speak of the Christian home as a little church, and just as we chase away the influences of the evil one from our parish, so too must we do in our own family.

#### **How to Prepare for a Home / Business Blessing**

In preparing for a house blessing, the following should be noted:

- 1. A quiet and reverent environment: Turn off the television and radio before the priest arrives. Assemble all the family and friends in the home around the icon corner, or at an icon prepared for the occasion. When the priest arrives, turn off the phone.
- 2. Prepare the table: For the house blessing, the priest will require the following: An icon, a lit candle or censer, a small, clean bowl for holy water, a sprig of basil if possible.

#### **Troparion of Theophany several times:**

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest!

For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son!

And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word.

O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Would You Like To Have Your Home/ business Blessed? You do not have to be Orthodox to have your home/ business blessed.

#### **House and Business Blessings**

On January 6, 2023 Father Neofitos will begin blessing homes and businesses. Please fill out the card below and return to the office for confirmation.

|                          |       |          | <br>     | _ |
|--------------------------|-------|----------|----------|---|
| Name -                   |       |          |          |   |
| Address -                | Cell/ | Main # - |          |   |
| Preferred day and time - |       |          | <u>-</u> |   |

Feel free to contact the office if you have any questions. 518-393-0742

St. George Greek Orthodox Church 107 Clinton Street Schenectady, NY 12305



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 782

## St. George Ministry Leaders

Altar Servers
Bookstore and Greek School
Bible Study/ Book Club
Choir/Chanters
Church Ushers
Fellowship Group
Friends of St. George
Greek School Board
Greek School Teachers

**Greek Dance Ladies Philoptochos Society** 

Office Manager and Facilities Staff Order of AHEPA Parish Council Members Soup Kitchen Stewardship

"Thursday Morning Boys"
Building and Grounds Volunteers

Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis
Presvytera Catherine Sarigiannis
Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis
Olga Delorey
Brian Goodale
Eliana Georgelos
Gladys Paravalos
Diamanto Ktenas
Ioanna Loula
George Cotzas
Balwant Maria Kingra

Phil Menagias Brian Goodale Olga Delorey Lucy Brady Toni Kananis Steve Giakoumis

**Jan Gallas** 

**Olga Delorey** 

**Camille Kosloski** 

frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com csarigiannis22@gmail.com

odelorey@nycap.rr.com brian.goodale@outlook.com elianayiayia@icloud.com Gladys1717p@aol.com diamanto.ktenas@gmail.com ioannaloula@gmail.com cotzasgm44@gmail.com balwant.kingra98@gmail.com jgjgfl@aol.com

office@saintgeorgegoc.com

p menagias@hotmail.com

Lukia@nycap.rr.com Dafnia3@yahoo.com 518-372-4476