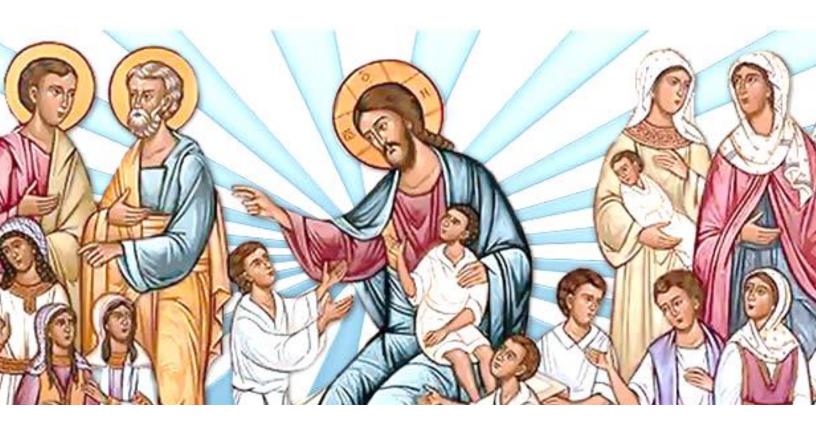


# THE TRIUMPHANT

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church Father Neofitos Sarigiannis <u>frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com</u> <u>www.saintgeorgegoc.com</u>

# September / October 2023



# St. George Schenectady Sunday School 2023-2024

Registration is now open for St. George Sunday School! STUDENTS PRE-K – 12th GRADE STARTING SEPTEMBER 17, 2023. Full Calendar on page 3.



		Se	ptember 2	023		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew Feast of St. Phanourios the Great Martyr 8:30 am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy		<b>29 Beheading of John</b> the Baptist 8:30 am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	30	31	<b>1</b> Ecclesiastical New Year	2
<b>3 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>4</b> Labor Day – Parish office closed	5	<b>6</b> 1st Day of Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	7	8 The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 47th Annual Greek Festival 11:00am-11:00pm	<b>9</b> 47 <sup>th</sup> Annual Greek Festival 11:00am-11:00pm
<b>10</b> Sunday before Holy Cross 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 47 <sup>th</sup> Annual Greek Festival 11:00pm-3:00pm	11	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Tri-City Philoptochos Meeting Agiasmos service – St Sophia Albany	<b>13</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	<b>14</b> The Elevation of the Venerable and Life- Giving Cross 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>15</b> 6:00pm AHEPA River Cruise	16
<b>17 Sunday after Holy Cross</b> 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Philoptochos board swearing in		6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	<b>20</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm 6:00pm Daughters of Penelope Meeting	<b>21</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of In-Person Greek School & Parent Orientation 4:30pm – 6:30pm	22	23
24 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 1 year memorial William Yavornicky	5:30pm Paraklesis to the		<b>27</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>28</b> Greek School 4:30pm – 6:30pm	29	30

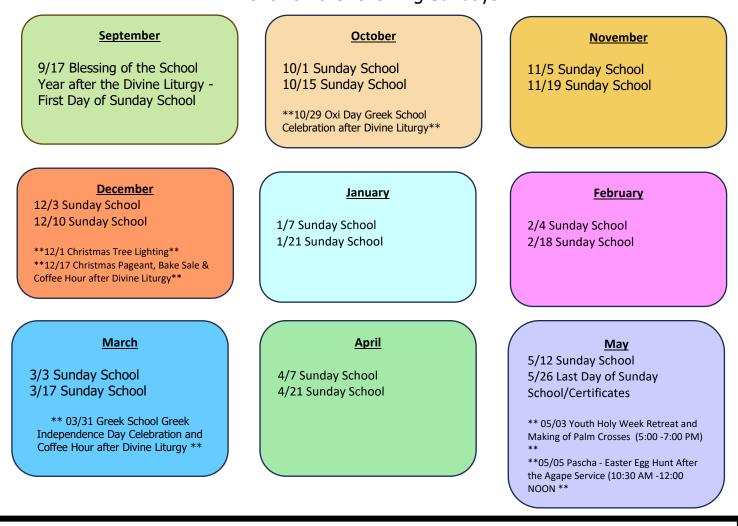


		0	ctober 202	3		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	2 5:30pm Paraklesis 6:30pm Dinner and Q&A with Father	3	<b>4</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>5</b> Greek School 4:30pm – 6:30pm	6	<b>7</b> 10:00am Baptism
8 3rd Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	9	10	<b>11</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>12</b> 11:30 am Senior Fellowship Meeting and Lunch Greek School 4:30pm – 6:30pm	13	14
8:30am Orthros	6:30pm Dinner and Q&A	<b>17</b> 7:00am Soup Kitchen Bag Lunch Prep 6:30pm Parish Council	<b>18</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>19</b> Greek School 4:30pm – 6:30pm	20	21
<b>22</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 1:00 pm Baptism	<b>23</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study	24	<b>25</b> Adult Greek School via Zoom – 5:00pm – 8:00pm	<b>26</b> Feastday of St. Demetrios 8:30am Orthros – 9:30am Divine Liturgy Greek School 4:30pm – 6:30pm	27	<b>28</b> Feastday of the Holy Protection of the Theotokos OXI Day
29 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy OXI Day Greek School Celebration after Divine Liturgy 11:00am	30	31		1		



### Saint George Schenectady Sunday School Calendar 2023-2024

Register now on our website! <u>http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/</u> Sunday School will meet in person, for 40 minutes after Holy Communion, twice a month on the following Sundays:



#### **CLASSES AND PROGRAM:**

Our Sunday school aims to help young people understand what we believe, why we believe it, and how to express and live out those timeless beliefs in the 21st century.

We will be using **"Orthodox Journeys"** and additional educational resources to create a well-rounded and engaging curriculum that will help students develop an understanding and desire to grow closer to Jesus Christ through the riches of our Orthodox Faith.

#### Some topics that will be visited regularly are:

\* Understanding and discussing the Sunday Gospel,

\* Learning short prayers and hymns from the Divine Liturgy

\* Hands-on activities about the customs and traditions of the church

\* Activities about Feasts. Fasts. and Saints and Discussions about Contemporarv Social Issues



#### From the desk of Fr. Neofitos

#### "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." John 15:7

On June 1<sup>st</sup> we ended the Greek School year with a lovely year-end event completing 3 full years of youth language and culture instruction.

On August 11<sup>th</sup> we completed our first ever week of St. George: Theotokos Camp.

On September 17, we will reopen our Sunday School with a special blessing of the backpacks and the  $1^{st}$  day of classes.



Our Youth Group will start a NEW food pantry collection ministry with a bin that will be in the Hellenic center all year round servicing one of our local elementary schools.

Our Lord has heard our prayers and granted us so many blessings. With many tears of sorrow, I think back to the St. George calendar from 2018 and 2019. Few services, few ministries, and too few strong people carrying the load of running a church. Many Many tears watered the soil and seeds planted here in Schenectady 110 years ago. Today, we are reaping the fruits of these Herculean efforts, prayers, and pleadings of Mercy from our Benevolent God. We must always remember that it is a thin line between hope and despair and that Life is Joy mixed with sorrow. These many blessings and young families will be lost if we do not set our sights on the Lord. God must be first - and then everything else. Our Festival, our groups, our parties, our fellowship, our fundraising, our hard work mean nothing by themselves. Our WHY must be for the Glory of God. Our WHY must be for the salvation of our souls. Our children are watching, and they are not inspired by what they see in the world. Screen addiction and distraction are more attractive to our youth than hard work and following God's rules. We are the church and we are here to help. The Holy Trinity surrounds us and all we need to do is participate in God's Holy presence. That is why it is called Holy Communion. The first target in any war is to attack communications. Our children are watching and the devil is attacking. Our prayers and sacramental life are our lifeline to the Divine. We can fill our lives with our Lord's commandments and lead by example. Our Lord again and again answers our prayers when we are persistent and in line with His will. "Thy will be done". We ask for His will before we ask for our daily bread. That is our Lord's prayer.

I pray we answer the thousands year old call to awaken our dead spirit and live in the joy of our Risen Lord. His words bring truth and joy. His presence heals all. We invite you to join St. George and grow the church.

St. George and every church need some good managers, stewards, but the victory has already been won. We too will win as long as we are on His side. May our true God number us among the sheep on His right as we spread the gospel, feed, clothe, and comfort those in need, and receive His body and blood for the remission of our sins. Amen.







#### ST. GEORGE SCHOOL OF GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURE 2023-2024 CALENDAR

#### Register now on our website! http://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/

#### For students in Kindergarten - Grade 8

Greek School will meet in person every Thursday from 4:30 - 6:30 PM

September	February
9/17 (Sunday) Blessing of the School Year after the	2/1 Class
Divine Liturgy -	2/8 Class
Greek School and Sunday School	2/15 Class
9/21 First Full Day of Classes/Parent Orientation	2/22 NO Class - Winter Recess
9/28 Class	2/29 Class
October	March
10/5 Class	3/7 Class
10/12 Class	3/14 Class
10/19 Class	3/21 Class
10/26 Class	3/28 Class
**10/29 Oxi Day Celebration after Divine Liturgy 11:00 AM – All Levels**	** 03/31 Greek Independence Day Celebration and Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy (11:00 AM) **
November	April
11/2 Class	4/4 NO Class - Spring Recess
11/9 Class	4/11 Class
11/16 Class	4/18 Class
11/23 NO Class - Thanksgiving Vacation	4/25 Class
11/30 Class	
December	May
12/7 Class	5/2 No Class - Holy Week
12/14 Class	5/9 Class
12/21 NO Class - Christmas Vacation	5/16 Class
12/28 NO Class - Christmas Vacation	5/23 Class
**12/17 Christmas Tree Lighting**	5/30 Last Day of Classes
**12/17 Christmas Pageant, Bake Sale & Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy (11:00 AM) **	** 05/03 Youth Holy Week Retreat and Making of Palm Crosses (5:00 -7:00 PM) **
January	**05/05 Pascha - Easter Egg Hunt After the Agape Service (10:30
1/4 Class	AM) **
1/11 Class	_
1/18 Class	June
1/25 Class	6/6 Last Day of classes
	** End of the year BBQ and moving up ceremony** Tentative Date: 6/13 (5:30-8:00 PM)

Snow days: If the Schenectady Public School System is closed, or afterschool activities are canceled, due to inclement weather, St. George Greek School will also be closed for that day.



# Starting September 21 for students K- 8th grade Join us for lessons in:



Greek culture and traditions





Traditional Greek dance (in-person only)

Basic conversational skills, modern Greek reading and writing

In person:

Thursdays 4:30-6:30pm

#### Remote:

Level I: Fridays 4:30-5:30pm Level II: Fridays 5:30-6:30pm

#### Scan for registration form



or visit sites.google.com/view/st-george-greekschool/home

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

for more information contact: office@stgeorgegoc.com or 518-393-0742



# Tri-City School of Greek Language and Culture

2023-2024

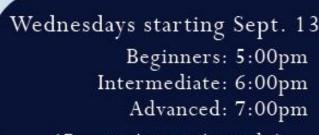
for students in 9th grade - adults

Join us for lessons in:

Greek culture

Basic conversational skills

Modern Greek reading, writing, and speaking skills





Scan for registration form or visit sites.google.com/view/st-george-greekschool/home

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

for more information contact: office@stgeorgegoc.com or 518-393-0742



# **WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY**

We are grateful for those members listed below who have submitted their 2023 stewardship pledge as of August 28, 2023. Your continued and consistent support will help our church continue to grow and prosper. To become a full member of our church, please fill a Pledge form and return it to our office.

Mr. & Mrs. George Alatzas Mr. Peter & Ms. Kyriakoula Andrikopoulos Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Arrington Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Avgerakis Ms. Athina Beaury Mr. John Behiri Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Behiri Ms. Susan Birbilis Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bosco Mr. & Mrs. Scott Brady Mr. & Mrs. Sam Bratsos Mrs. Ifigenia Brown Mr. & Mrs. James Bump Ms. Arji Cakouros Dr. Fanny Caranikas-Walker Mr. & Mrs. Peter Chamberas Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Christou Mr. Andreas & Mrs. Sophia Christou Miss Arianna Christou Mr. & Mrs. Euripides Christou Mrs. Catherine Contompasis Miss Catherine 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 Ms. Linda Davison Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Deligiannis Ms. Olga Delorey Mr. Gerry Dermentzys Miss Joanne Diamantis Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios Diamantopoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Brad Engwer Mr. & Mrs. Michael Euripidou Mrs. Janet Gallas Mr. Arthur Georgelas Mrs. Helena Georgelas Mrs. Eliana Georgelos Mr. & Mrs. Steve Giakoumis Mr. & Mrs. Brian Goodale Dr. Jeffrey Hnath & Dr. Efrossini Kolios Mr. & Mrs. Owen Huggins Mrs. Frusina Ica Iancu Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Jones Mrs. Catherine Julius Ms. Antonia Kananis Mrs. Fanny Karamanos Ms. Balwant Maria Kingra Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Kolios Mrs. Maria Kontakos Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kontogiannis Ms. Kaliopi Kounoupis Mrs. Voula Kounoupis Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kouray Mr. Dimitrios Koutsopoulos Mr. & Mrs. David Lambert Mr. & Mrs. Trifon Laskaris Ms. Christine Leaorius Mrs. Rosemary Legorius Mr. William Manikas Mr. & Mrs. Phil McGowen Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Menagias Mr. Demetrios Michael Ms. Anastasia Mikropoulos Mrs. Antonia Mikropoulos Ms. Anastasia C. Mikropoulos Ms. Demetra Mikropoulos

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mikropoulos Mr. Taso Mikropoulos Mr. Theodore Mikropoulos Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Miller Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morlock Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Nikolaidis Mr. Simeon Nikolaidis Mr. Constantine Orfan Mrs. Katherine Orfan Mr. & Mrs. Vito Pagnotti Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pagones Mr. & Mrs. Nick Paravalos Mr. Tjannis Polikandriotis Fr. & Pres. Neofitos Sarigiannis Mr. & Mrs. Paul Scott Mrs. Elena Sikamiotis Mr. Kostas Sikamiotis Ms. Aphrodite Slingerland Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Sokaris Mrs. Ourania Sokaris Mrs. Irini Spyros Ms. Roubina Spyros-Morgan Ms. Maria Stamoulis Mrs. Stavroula Stamoulis Mr. & Mrs. Van Stathis Mrs. Olga Stryjski Mr. & Mrs. Ioannis Tsakopiakos Ms. Melissa Verrigni Mr. & Mrs. Niko Verrigni Mrs. Sophie Zanaros Mrs. Anastasia Zoulas





### **Become a Full Member of the Church - 2023 Stewardship Pledges**

Beloved parishioners and friends,

We pray you are having a blessed beginning to the Ecclesiastical / school year and enjoying the weather. Saint George is full of activity. With Festival preparations in full swing, the Feast of the Kimisis, Dormition, Assumption of the Virgin Mary, ministries beginning in September, and having completed our first ever St. George Theotokos Camp, we praise God for all He has given us and for all that is to come!

We welcome you to join us and become full members of St. George. First, this may be news to some of you, but most churches have cash flow issues during the summer. Our request is that if you haven't pledged to be a steward of our church for 2023 yet to please do so by filling out the enclosed pledge form and submitting it to our church office (open Mon. – Thurs. 9am -2pm) or to one of our many officers and trusted leaders. If you have already pledged for 2023, we ask that you make an installment payment as soon as possible to help the church balance its expenses currently. Your help and consideration are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about becoming Full Members of The Church, please contact me at <u>frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com</u> or call 347-256-6723.

Our employees, staff, volunteers of all programs, and our parish council and officers are working hard all around the clock to make sure our church can prosper in the current ecclesiastical/school year and for many years to come.

May the Holy Trinity bless us as worthy ministers of His Holy Spirit to the world.

We look forward to seeing you soon in church at 9:30 am every Sunday, on Mondays at 5:30 pm starting on September 25<sup>th</sup>, and at our festival on September 8, 9 and 10, 2023.

Gratefully and respectfully,

Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis

Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis







Membership in the Philoptochos Society is open to all Greek Orthodox faithful and their spouses.

Enjoy Full or Associate Membership.

Join Today Philoptochos.org

#### Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Sts. Cosmos and Damianos Chapter at St. George Greek Orthodox Church Installation of Officers immediately following Divine Liturgy and chapter meeting at 12:15 PM.

Dear Parishioners,

I arrived at the office of President this year in an unconventional way. However, I accept this duty with honor and humble enthusiasm, as I lead a dynamic group of people in service to God and humanity.

Membership in the Philoptochos Society affords each of us the opportunity to work towards our own salvation through the teachings of our Orthodox Faith, the guidance of our parish priest, and through service to those in need.

It is often said that time is our most valuable asset. Yet we are not guaranteed a moment beyond what we are living. Forgive, pray, and join with us in ministering to those in need; we are all in need.

With Love in Christ,

Athena Pagnotti

#### Mark Your Calendars!!!

Proposed event calendar for September/October pending confirmation by the chapter members at the upcoming September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Installation of Chapter Officers and Chapter Meeting 12:15 PM
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	Soup Kitchen Bag Lunches
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Coffee Hour reception in honor of National Church Music Sunday
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Card sign-up begins; Chapter Meeting 12:15
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	Soup Kitchen Bag Lunches
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Accepting donations for Mitten Tree/City Mission Christmas Toy Store



#### **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

Greetings from the Fellowship group!

As I write this at the end of August, it's hard to believe that summer is quickly departing and that our biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual Greek Festival, will soon be upon us. Our last Fellowship meeting took place on July 13th and it seems like yesterday. We decided then that we would not meet again in August or September due to the festival...preparation in August and exhaustion in September!

Our 47th annual Greek Festival is fast approaching. Fellowship members are always heavily involved in one way or another in preparations prior to opening, plus working at various booths during the festival. At this time (2 weeks before it begins), the advertising is already well under way with Olga having connected with the newspapers, radio and television. She has also connected with individuals as well as businesses for sponsorships. A new banner advertising the festival has been purchased and hung outside the Hellenic Center. We have already completed some of the cooking. In mid July we made 40 large pans of spanakopita which have since been frozen. In mid August the pastries were baked and frozen, including finikia (melomakarona), koulourakia, lemon ricotta cakes, ravani, karidopita, and the tsourekia. The last pastries to be baked are the kourambiedes, since they cannot be frozen.

The week before the festival is always a whirlwind of activity as the huge tent in the parking lot is put up. Under the tent we position tables and chairs where customers will sit to eat and enjoy watching our costumed young people perform the ethnic dances of Greece. Other areas that must be set up under the tent are the booths for souvlaki, loukoumades, lemonade, the outside bar, and the Yiayia's Treasures booth, plus the bandstand where Prometheus, our live band plays Greek music for everyone who wishes to get up and dance.

Indoors, all the booths inside the Hellenic Center must be set up, including the steam tables for our hot foods, the salad bar, coolers for sodas and other cold drinks, cashier booths, the pastry booths, the indoor bar and the Greek marketplace booth. Signs must be hung showing the names of our sponsors, stanchions put up to guide the direction of foot traffic, tables covered and skirted, and supplies/equipment collected and placed at each of the booths. The pastries must be defrosted and laid out for sale and prep work must be initiated for the hot foods...moussaka, pastitsio, lamb shanks, marinades and sides including hundreds of pounds of potatoes to wash and peel! Many hours of labor and many hands are involved before the festival even begins!

Father Neofitos has been hard at work selling the \$100 raffle tickets which will generate much excitement throughout the three days of the festival, as sales will continue up until the drawing of the winning numbers on Sunday afternoon. In addition to the cash prizes to be awarded, we also have wonderful prizes donated by our parishioners, as well as many businesses outside the Greek community. We are grateful to Dino for visiting so many vendors and businesses who donated valuable prizes such as jewelry, a snowblower, and a large screened TV to name just a few.

We cannot overstate the importance of our annual Greek festival for so many reasons, the first one coming to mind being the income it generates that allows our church to maintain its existence. Most importantly, however, through our music, dancing, food and hospitality our festival brings the presence of our Greek culture and philoxenia to the community, creating a sense of unity that brings people of all faiths and ethnicities together. We pray that our patron Saint George intercedes for all of us, that we come through the days ahead with strength, good health, and safety.

In addition to our festival, the month of September also brings us two of the Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church...the Nativity of the Virgin Mary on September 8 and the Elevation of the Life-giving Cross on September 14. As Orthodox Christians, the personal expression of our faith happens by attending liturgy and other church services. We, therefore, encourage all St. George parishioners to come to church for both of these Great Feasts. Our next Fellowship meeting will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2023. Lunch, consisting of roasted chicken

with rice pilaf, a Greek salad, rolls/butter and dessert, will be served at 11:30 am followed by a short meeting. As always, we encourage all St. George parishioners to join our group. Please see Eliana if you would like to do so.

#### Adult Religious Education Calendar

#### Mondays

25-Sep-23 Dinner Q and A 2-Oct-23 Dinner Q and A Off 9-Oct-23 16-Oct-23 Dinner Q and A 23-Oct-23 Bible Study 30-Oct-23 Off 6-Nov-23 Dinner Q and A 13-Nov-23 Bible Study 20-Nov-23 Dinner Q and A 27-Nov-23 Bible Study 4-Dec-23 Dinner Q and A 11-Dec-23 Bible Study 18-Dec-23 Dinner Q and A 25-Dec-23 Off 1-Jan-24 Off 8-Jan-24 Off 15-Jan-24 Dinner Q and A 22-Jan-24 Bible Study 29-Jan-24 Dinner Q and A 5-Feb-24 Bible Study 12-Feb-24 Dinner Q and A 19-Feb-24 Off 26-Feb-24 Dinner Q and A 4-Mar-24 Bible Study 11-Mar-24 Dinner Q and A 18-Mar-24 Dinner Q and A 25-Mar-24 Bible Study 1-Apr-24 Dinner Q and A 8-Apr-24 Bible Study 15-Apr-24 Dinner Q and A 22-Apr-24 Bible Study 29-Apr-24 Off 6-May-24 Off 13-May-24 Final Dinner Q and A 20-May-24 Final Bible Study



Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

- Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary is on most Mondays at 5:30 pm.
- Dinner Q and A with Father is at 6:30 pm in the Hellenic Center.
- Bible Study is at 6:30 pm in the Church.



# Dinner and Q and A with Father



#### Twice a month on select Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Hellenic Center

Join us as we explore our Orthodox Faith with a Fellowship Dinner and Q and A session with Father Neofitos Sarigiannis and other guest clergy members occasionally. Come ready with questions or submit your questions anonymously in our special Q and A box. Join our Group Today!!!! Email Fr. Neofitos: <u>frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com</u>

## Dinner and Q and A Schedule

(Mark your calendars)

- Monday, September 25
- Monday, October 2
- Monday, October 16
- Monday, November 6
- Monday, November 20
- Monday, December 4
- Monday, December 18
- Monday, January 15
- Monday, January 29
- Monday, February 12
- Monday, February 26
- Monday, March 11
- Monday, March 18
- Monday, April 1
- Monday, April 15
- Monday, May 13

Services: Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary Every Monday is at 5:30pm

# Festival Church Tours and Dance Performance Schedule

# Friday, September 8:

12:00pm Church Tour4:30pm Church Tour7:30pm Dance Performance

# Saturday, September 9:

12:00pm Church Tour1:00pm Dance Performance3:00pm Church Tour4:30pm Dance Performance6:00pm Church Tour8:00pm Dance Performance

# Sunday, September 10:

11:30pm Church Tour1:00pm Dance Performance



# **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. <u>https://www.saintgeorgegoc.com/c</u> <u>alendar/google-calendar</u>

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 Google Calendar 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.



# **Bible Study**

#### Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary at 5:30 pm Bible Study On select Mondays at 6:30 pm in church

Last year we completed a study on the Divine Liturgy, our most important worship service. This year we will delve in to Matins, Orthros Service. The hymns, gospels, prayers, etc. All you need is your Orthodox Study Bible. Join our Group Today!!!! Email Fr. Neofitos: <u>frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com</u>

#### Bible Study Schedule on select Mondays at 6:30 pm (mark your calendars)

- Monday, October 23
- Monday, November 13
- Monday, November 27
- Monday, December 11
- Monday, January 22
- Monday, February 5
- Monday, March 4
- Monday, March 25
- Monday, April 8
- Monday, April 22
- Monday, May 20

#### Services: Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary Every Monday is at 5:30pm



**Revelation 3:20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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



# ST. GEORGE YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group meets several times a year and for children ages 4-13.

Some events are parish wide and just sponsored by the youth such as our New Annual Bowling Event and our Annual Tree Lighting.

To join our group please email Maryna Baker and Emmanouela Filipis at <u>makerba@hotmail.com</u>.

## Our Calendar for 2023-2024

- Saturday, October 14 at 10:00am 1:00pm Youth Fall Kick-off: A Visit to the Orchard
- Friday, December 1 at 7:00 8:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting
- Sunday, Jan 15, 2023 St. George Bowling Event
- Friday, April 26 at 5:00pm-8:00 pm Holy Week Youth Retreat and Folding of the Palms
- Holy Thursday, May 2 and Holy Friday May 3 at 6:00 pm Altar boys and Myrophores
- Pascha, May 5 at 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt
- August St. George Theotokos CAMP



# Blessing Of The Backpacks Sunday, September 17th

\*Attention parents, teachers/educators and students of all ages\*

Please join us on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> during Divine Liturgy for our "Blessing of the Backpacks". Please bring your backpacks/bags to church to receive a blessing for the new school year!

All participants will receive an icon card to keep in their backpacks or their icon corner. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate and pray for our students and teachers/educators.

**The Order of the Blessing:** Following the Memorial Service Parents and Children will be invited to the solea for the blessing. Fr. Neofitos will welcome everyone and explain the blessing. We will chant the hymn of our Church, and the Pentecost Hymn, offer petitions for our students and families as they begin the new school year, and we will ask God's blessing for them.

We will take a picture together and have everyone return to their pew with an icon card.

### God bless you as you begin the new school year!



# CHOIR / CHANTERS

Participating in divine worship services as a choir member is a sacred responsibility, not to be taken lightly. Choir members offer their God-given talents to the faith. It is a part of their stewardship – the giving of their "time and talents."

Not all choir members are or need to be trained musicians, able to read music or have experience in singing with a group. However, with love and practice, all can grow in their knowledge of the music and create a sound that matches the beauty of our services and their surroundings – the music, the chanting, the icons, the vestments all strive to be as perfect and beautiful as possible as we offer up worship to God.

For further information, please contact Olga Delorey, Choir Director, at <u>odelorey@nycap.rr.com</u> or speak with her during Sunday Coffee Hour.

"When we sing church hymns, we must be careful that we do not pronounce only the words with our tongues while our hearts wander elsewhere." -St. John Chrysostom

The first Sunday on or after the **Feast of St. Romanos** (October  $1^{st}$ ) 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, choir members, and psaltai. We thank them for their devotion to our Church through their ministry of music.

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 hymnwriters 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)



# **CRAFTERS WANTED**

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE Saturday, December 9, 2023 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

#### OFFERING HANDMADE ITEMS and GREEK PASTRIES

VENDOR SPACE 8' x 8' (includes 6' table) \$65 Per Spot + \$10 for Electricity Extra Tables Available for \$5 each

Hellenic Center St. George Greek Orthodox Church 510 Liberty Street Schenectady, NY 12305 (All proceeds benefit St. George Greek Orthodox Church)

Contact Jan Gallas for Information

518-596-0821 (call or text) Email to JGJGFL@AOL.COM

# **THE FRIENDS OF ST. GEORGE**

"Friends of St. George" raises money all year round to buy things for the church such as: carpeting in the church, the beautiful Gospel Stand, our 80 plus portable icons, and our newest closets and cabinets for the Altar and future chapel area. Donations are very much appreciated, and a receipt will always be written even if your donation is to remain anonymous.

We thank everyone who has become "A Friend of St. George" and donated so generously over the years. May God bless us all.

With love in Christ,

Fr. Neofitos and Gladys



# **Greek Night River (ruise 2023**



# Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 6 pm – 9 pm

Food provided by Saati Catering Music provided by DJ Zilos Cash bar and raffle drawings

Tickets - \$70 per person through Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> \$80 after if available



Boarding Begins @ 5:30 pm Boat Departs @ 6 pm sharp Raffle Drawings @ 8 pm Dutch Apple Cruises 141 Broadway Albany, NY 12202



Max Capacity of 150 Mail payments with name & phone # of guests to: AHEPA Chapter 125 1975 Central Avenue Albany, NY 12205

# COME OUT AND CELEBRATE GREEK HERITAGE WITH AHEPA AND MDA citi FIELD

# September 29, 2023 - 7:10 pm

AHEPA District 6 events make it possible to provide students with scholarships and help families in need. This fundraiser we are partnering with the New York Mets and the MDA.

## **SHOW YOUR GREEK PRIDE!**

It doesn't matter which team you cheer for... We at AHEPA cheer for you.

ALL AND

# THANK YOU FOR HELPING US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

 Archdiocesan Cathedral Youth Choir will perform the National Anthem Traditional Greek Dancing by AMC Dancers at 5:00 p.m.

Parade across the warning track

Muscular

Music by Geo Events / DJ Spiro







Scan for Dystrophy More Info Association



To honor Christopher Ioannou's memory The Biggest Met Fan Ever

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



