

St. Sophia/SS. Faith, Hope & Agape Greek Orthodox Church
June 23, 2024



St. Sophia/SS. Faith, Hope & Agape
Greek Orthodox Church of Valley Forge

900 South Trooper Road
Jeffersonville, PA, 19403

Tel.: (610) 650-8960 • Fax: (610) 650-8961

www.saintsophiachurch.org email: office@saintsophiachurch.org

Sunday Worship: 8:45 am - Orthros: 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Office Hours - 10 am to 4 pm

Rev. Fr. Symeon Williams
frsymeon@saintsophiachurch.org
Metropolis of New Jersey



June 23, 2024

Holy Pentecost

Agrippina the Martyr of Rome

Holy Martyrs Aristocleus the Priest, Demetrius the Deacon and Athanasius the Reader

The Holy New Bishop Martyrs Gerasimus of Crete, Neophytos of Knossos, Joachim of Cherronisos, Hierotheos of Lampi, Zachariah of Sitia, Joachim of Petra, Gerasimos of Rethymno, Kallinikos of Kydonia, Melchizedek of Kissamos, Kallinikos of Diopolos, and those Martyred with them (1821-1822)



ENTRANCE HYMNS

Apolytikion for Pentecost - Evloghitos I, Christe ("Blessed are You, O Christ our God")

Blessed are You, O Christ our God. You made the fishermen all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them You drew the world into Your net. O Lover of mankind, glory to You.

Apolytikion of St. Sophia/Ss. Faith, Hope & Agape

Greek

Ὁς ελαία κατά καρπος ανεβλάστησας, ἐν ταῖς ἀνλαῖς τοῦ Κυρίου, Σοφία μάρτυς σεμνή, καί προσήγαγες Χριστῷ καρπὸν ἡ δύτατον, τοὺς τῆς νηδύος σου βλαστούς, δι' ἀ γώνων εὐαγῶν, Ἀγάπην τε καί Ἐλπίδα σὺν τῇ θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθῶν δυσώπει ὑπὲρ πάντων ἡμῶν.

English Phonetics for Greek

Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyriou Sofia martyrs semni, ke prosigages Christo karpon idytaton, tus tis nidyos su vlastus, di' agonon evagon, Agapin te ke Elpida, syn ti theofroni Pisti; meth' on dysopi yper pandon imon.

English

As an olive tree laden with fruit you sprouted forth, in the courtyards of the Lord, Sophia martyr dignified, and you brought to Christ a fruit most sweet, Namely your womb's own sprouts, brought up by instructive deeds: your daughters Love and Hope, along with God-minded Faith; together intercede with God for us all.

Seasonal Kontakion – Ote katavas tas ghlossas ("When He descended and confused the tongues")

*When the Most High God came down and confused the tongues, * He divided the nations. * When He distributed the tongues of fire, * He called all to unity. * And with one voice we glorify the all-holy Spirit.*

Project Mexico 2024 UPDATE



Our team is all set! We are ready to be the hands and feet of Christ and put our Faith in the Lord to work for a deserving family that does not have a home. But we still need help to fund travel expenses, building supplies, tools and more.

Helping is easy! You can donate funds directly to St. Sophia via Venmo, Zelle or by cash or check and note that they are for Project Mexico. We will make sure these funds are used specifically for this important and deeply rewarding mission. If you would like to learn more, join the team next year or learn how you can help sponsor our team, please email John Pogas, the group leader, at johnpogas@gmail.com.



venmo

PRAYER MINISTRY



"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." *Philippians 4:6-7*

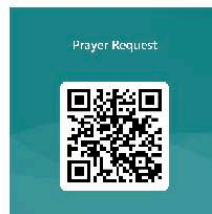
"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing you will receive." *Matthew 21:22*

"For with God, nothing will be impossible." *Luke 1:37*

Clearly, there is nothing more powerful than the power of prayer. Imagine someone struggling or suffering and then having multiple people praying for them daily! Our "Prayer Warriors" do just that. They will pray for individuals added to the list daily for a period of 6 months.

If you know of someone in need, you can add them to our prayer list using one of the following methods:

1. Fill out a request form at the box found in the church narthex **OR**
2. Send an email to Prayers@SaintSophiaChurch.org **OR**
3. Use the anonymous online form (the link is found under Prayer Ministry on our website), or you can use this link <https://forms.office.com/r/kMx49JdptM> **OR**
4. Use the QR form below (also found on the box in the narthex) which takes you to the anonymous form.



Epistle Reading

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

*Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.*

WHEN THE DAY of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 2:1-11 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

*Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν.
Στίχ. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ.*

Ἐν τῷ συμπληροῦσθαι τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, ἦσαν ἅπαντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπὶ τὸ αὐτό. Καὶ ἐγένετο ἄφνω ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἦχος ὥσπερ φερομένης πνοῆς βιαίας, καὶ ἐπλήρωσεν ὅλον τὸν οἶκον οὗ ἦσαν καθήμενοι. Καὶ ὤφθησαν αὐτοῖς διαμεριζόμεναι γλῶσσαι ὡσεὶ πυρός, ἐκάθισέν τε ἐφ' ἕνα ἕκαστον αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπλήσθησαν ἅπαντες πνεύματος ἁγίου, καὶ ἤρξαντο λαλεῖν ἐτέραις γλώσσαις, καθὼς τὸ πνεῦμα ἐδίδου αὐτοῖς ἀποφθέγγεσθαι. Ἦσαν δὲ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατοικοῦντες Ἰουδαῖοι, ἄνδρες εὐλαβεῖς, ἀπὸ παντὸς ἔθνους τῶν ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανόν. Γενομένης δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ταύτης, συνῆλθεν τὸ πλῆθος καὶ συνεχύθη, ὅτι ἤκουον εἰς ἕκαστος τῆ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ λαλούντων αὐτῶν. Ἐξίσταντο δὲ πάντες καὶ ἐθαύμαζον, λέγοντες πρὸς ἀλλήλους, Οὐκ ἰδοῦ πάντες οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ λαλοῦντες Γαλιλαῖοι; Καὶ πῶς ἡμεῖς ἀκούομεν ἕκαστος τῆ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ ἡμῶν ἐν ᾗ ἐγεννήθημεν; Πάρθοι καὶ Μηδοὶ καὶ Ἑλαμίται, καὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν Μεσοποταμίαν, Ἰουδαίαν τε καὶ Καππαδοκίαν, Πόντον καὶ τὴν Ἀσίαν, Φρυγίαν τε καὶ Παμφυλίαν, Αἴγυπτον καὶ τὰ μέρη τῆς Λιβύης τῆς κατὰ Κυρήνην, καὶ οἱ ἐπιδημοῦντες Ῥωμαῖοι, Ἰουδαῖοί τε καὶ προσήλυτοι, Κρήτες καὶ Ἄραβες, ἀκούομεν λαλούντων αὐτῶν ταῖς ἡμετέραις γλώσσαις τὰ μεγαλεῖα τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel According to John 7:37-52; 8:12

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 7:37-52; 8:12 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἐν δὲ τῇ ἐσχάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ τῆς ἑορτῆς εἰστήκει ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔκραζε λέγων· ἐάν τις διψᾷ, ἐρχέσθω πρὸς με καὶ πινέτω. ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμέ, καθὼς εἶπεν ἡ γραφή, ποταμοὶ ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ ῥεύσουσιν ὕδατος ζῶντος. τοῦτο δὲ εἶπε περὶ τοῦ Πνεύματος οὗ ἔμελλον λαμβάνειν οἱ πιστεύοντες εἰς αὐτόν· οὐπω γὰρ ἦν Πνεῦμα Ἅγιον, ὅτι Ἰησοῦς οὐδέπω ἐδοξάσθη. Πολλοὶ οὖν ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου ἀκούσαντες τὸν λόγον ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ προφήτης· ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός· ἄλλοι ἔλεγον· μὴ γὰρ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ὁ Χριστός ἔρχεται; οὐχὶ ἡ γραφή εἶπεν ὅτι ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Δαυὶδ καὶ ἀπὸ Βηθλεὲμ τῆς κώμης, ὅπου ἦν Δαυὶδ, ὁ Χριστός ἔρχεται; σχίσμα οὖν ἐν τῷ ὄχλῳ ἐγένετο δι' αὐτόν. τινὲς δὲ ἤθελον ἐξ αὐτῶν πιάσαι αὐτόν, ἀλλ' οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτόν τὰς χεῖρας. Ἦλθον οὖν οἱ ὑπηρέται πρὸς τοὺς ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ Φαρισαίους, καὶ εἶπον αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖνοι· διατί οὐκ ἠγάγετε αὐτόν; ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ ὑπηρέται· οὐδέποτε οὕτως ἐλάλησεν ἄνθρωπος, ὡς οὗτος ὁ ἄνθρωπος. ἀπεκρίθησαν οὖν αὐτοῖς οἱ Φαρισαῖοι· μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς πεπλάνησθε; μὴ τις ἐκ τῶν ἀρχόντων ἐπίστευσεν εἰς αὐτόν ἢ ἐκ τῶν Φαρισαίων; ἀλλ' ὁ ὄχλος οὗτος ὁ μὴ γινώσκων τὸν νόμον ἐπικατάρτοί εἰσι! λέγει Νικόδημος πρὸς αὐτούς, ὁ ἐλθὼν νυκτὸς πρὸς αὐτόν, εἷς ὢν ἐξ αὐτῶν· μὴ ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν κρίνει τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἐὰν μὴ ἀκούσῃ παρ' αὐτοῦ πρότερον καὶ γινῶ τί ποιεῖ; ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ· μὴ καὶ σὺ ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας εἶ; ἐρεύνησον καὶ ἴδε ὅτι προφήτης ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας οὐκ ἐγήγερται. Πάλιν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐλάλησε λέγων· ἐγὼ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου· ὁ ἀκολουθῶν ἐμοὶ οὐ μὴ περιπατήσει ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ, ἀλλ' ἔξει τὸ φῶς τῆς ζωῆς.

June Poor Box Donations

Thank you for considering a gift!

Please consider supporting the philanthropic outreach of our Church through the Philoptochos Poor Box located in the Pangari. Each month 100% of the donations are designated for a local charity.

Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box for June benefit **Pillars of Light and Love** and its cafe **So Much to Give Inclusive Cafe**. The cafe employs 63 people with disabilities, giving them opportunities to work and learn. You can learn more about this worthwhile organization at www.somuchtogivecafe.org. You can see their good work in action at 3401 W. Skippack Pike in Skippack. The cafe is open Wednesday through Sunday.

Please pray for those who are employed at So Much to Give Inclusive Cafe and their families as well as those who work on their behalf. Please consider donating to this worthwhile charity at <http://www.saintsophiachurch.org/poorboxdonations.html> or submit a check payable to St. Sophia Philoptochos adding "poor box" to the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME



SATURDAY AUGUST 17, 2024 - 6:05PM

\$65 PER TICKET - PAYMENT IN ADVANCE

ONLY 30 TICKETS AVAILABLE

FOR TICKETS: EMAIL STSOPHIAPARISH@SAINTSOPHIACHURCH.ORG OR TEXT/CALL 215.206.8180



ST. SOPHIA PHILOPTOCHOS

Tropites

Frozen 6-packs - \$25

With Cooking Instructions

ONLY 2 PACKS LEFT

We accept Zelle (ladies@saintsophiachurch.org)
and Venmo payments

FOR ORDERS: Kathy T. 610.539.5413



venmo

St. Sophia/Ss. Faith, Hope & Agape Greek Orthodox Church of Valley Forge

TAKE & BAKE

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Enjoy some of our beloved Greek delicacies for days and weeks to come. All entrees are frozen and come with complete baking instructions.

ENTREES

SPANAKOPITA (1/2 tray, 9 pcs)	\$45
PASTITSIO (1/2 tray, 6 pcs)	\$45
MOUSSAKA (1/2 tray, 6 pcs)	\$50

LIMITED SUPPLY!

CONTACT JOHN PAPADIMITRIOU



THE NICENE CREED (The Confession of Faith)

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages;

Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father, through Whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.

Amen

ENGLISH

Our Father, who art in heaven;
hallowed be Thy name, Thy
Kingdom come, Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass
against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from
evil.

GREEK

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς
ἁγιασθήτω τό ὄνομά σου,
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,
γενηθήτω τό θέλημά σου, ὡς
ἐν οὐρανῷ καί ἐπί τῆς γῆς.

Τόν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τόν
ἐπιούσιον δός ἡμῖν
σήμερον καί ἄφες ἡμῖν τά
ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καί ἡμεῖς
ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν καί
μή εἰσενέγκης ἡμᾶς εἰς
πειρασμόν, ἀλλά ῥῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπό
τοῦ πονηροῦ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ENGLISH PHONETICS

Pá-ter i-món o en tis ou-ra-nís
a-gi-as-thí-to to o-no-má Sou,
el-thé-to I va-si-lí-a Sou,
ge-ni-thí-to to thé-li-má Sou, os
en ou-ra-nó ke e-pi tis ghis.

Ton ár-ton i-món ton
e-pi-ou-si-on dos i-mín
sí-me-ron ke á-fes i-mín ta
o-fe-lí-ma-ta i-món, os ke i-mís
a-fí-e-men tis o-fi-lé-tes i-món ke
mi i-se-nég-kis i-más is
pi-ras-món, al-la rí-se i-más a-pó
tou po-ni-roú.

Phonetics by Dr. Christine Kerxhalli,
orthodoxtoday.wordpress.com

SAVE THE DATE!



NOV 8, 9, 10 2024

**GOYA FALL
RETREAT**  **INNABAH CAMP &
RETREAT CENTER**



A DVYC EVENT — FAITH/FUN/FELLOWSHIP!

HELP WANTED! We are looking for friendly, welcoming faces to be part of our Pangari Team. You do NOT need to be a member of the Parish Council to serve Pangari duty. What you do need to do is welcome fellow parishioners, make change when they purchase candles, help with passing the collection tray, etc. It's a great way to serve the Parish and to learn more about how the Parish operates as you'll be serving next to existing Parish Council members. If you are interested, then please reach out to either Elaine Piligian (Parish secretary) or John Pogas.

The Choir is Looking for New Members: Can you sing? Do you play piano? The choir is looking to expand our membership. All are welcome to sit in on our rehearsals and/or Liturgies to learn more about our music and to see if the choir is right for you. Please call Tom Cox with questions ([215-859-1009](tel:215-859-1009)) or email him at tc Cox@mysolutions.com. Thank you!



MORTGAGE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

We would like to thank the following stewards and friends of St. Sophia for contributing to the Mortgage Reduction Campaign for May. The total for May was \$13,222.

Each month we will list the Mortgage Reduction collections for the previous month.

Mr. Chris Altum
Mr. Roy Baulch
Mr. & Mrs. George Coutavas
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Cox
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Diccianni
Mrs. Irene Giardina
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Karagiannopoulos
Mrs. Evangelia A. Klapakis
Mr. & Mrs. George Klapakis
Mr. & Mrs. Bart Kline
Ladies Philoptochos

Mr. & Mrs. Dean Laskaris
Mrs. Effie Liacouras
Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros Lousos
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Malagari
Mr. & Mrs. Edward McAdoo
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moses
Mrs. Pelagia Mylonas
Mrs. Bessie Neofotistos
Dr. Marianne & Mr. Alexander Nikas
Mr. & Mrs. John Papadimitriou
Dr. & Mrs. Peter Patukas

Mr. & Mrs. Aram Piligian
Mr. & Mrs. David Poloway
Mr. & Mrs. Rami Richie
Mr. and Mrs. John Samaras
Fr. Peter & Presv. Katherine Thornberg
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Thornberg
Mrs. Shirley Tripolitis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Tsikalas
Ms. Katherine Tsipras
Mr. & Mrs. Socratis Tsipras
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vail
Special Collections

Communion Prayers

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the remission of sins and for eternal life. Amen.

Behold, I approach for Divine Communion. O Maker, burn me not as I partake, For You are fire consuming the unworthy. But cleanse me from every stain.

O Son of God, receive me today as a partaker of Your mystical supper. For I will not speak of the mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss, as did Judas. But like the thief, I confess to You: Remember me, Lord, in Your Kingdom.

Tremble, O man, as you behold the divine Blood. It is a burning coal that sears the unworthy. The Body of God both deifies and nourishes me: It deifies the Spirit and wondrously nourishes the mind.

You have smitten me with yearning, O Christ, and by Your divine eros You have changed me. But burn up with spiritual fire my sins, and grant me to be filled with delight in You, so that, leaping for joy, I may magnify, O Good One, Your two comings.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I should dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my vesture will condemn me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. Cleanse, O Lord, the filth of my soul, and save me, as You are the one Who loves mankind. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul, and save me.

Master Who loves mankind, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my judgment because I am unworthy, but rather for the purification and sanctification of both soul and body and the pledge of the life and Kingdom to come. It is good for me to cleave unto God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

O Son of God, receive me today as a partaker of Your mystical supper. For I will not speak of the mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss, as did Judas. But like the thief, I confess to You: Remember me, Lord, in Your Kingdom.

June 23, 2024

Holy Pentecost

Agrippina the Martyr of Rome

Holy Martyrs Aristocleus the Priest, Demetrius the Deacon and Athanasius the Reader

The Holy New Bishop Martyrs Gerasimus of Crete, Neophytos of Knossos, Joachim of Cherronisos, Hierotheos of Lampi, Zachariah of Sitia, Joachim of Petra, Gerasimos of Rethymno, Kallinikos of Kydonia, Melchizedek of Kissamos, Kallinikos of Diopolos, and those Martyred with them (1821-1822)



Sponsor Coffee Hour! If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, please sign up on the Coffee Hour Sponsor Sheet on the window at the back of the hall near the coffee/refreshments table. **We need sponsors for the coming weeks!** Please note that the church will supply coffee, creamer, juice, and paper products to eliminate waste and clutter. We ask that coffee hour sponsors donate \$25 (payable to St. Sophia Church) to offset these expenses. Thank you!

St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape Vigil Candle: If you are interested in sponsoring a vigil candle, please see a Parish Council member at the Pangari – no advance signup necessary and several individuals or families can sponsor each week. The proceeds of these donations will go to our Mortgage Reduction Fund. Each vigil candle lasts one week; the asking donation is \$10.

Exciting Mortgage Reduction News! An anonymous donor has come forward to match donations made to the mortgage reduction fund **up to \$100,000** for 2024. This is a great opportunity to reduce our mortgage by **one-third**. With your help, we will make a huge difference in our mortgage expenses.

Stewardship/Mortgage Reduction: PLEASE keep in mind that our fixed costs are ever present. Be sure to send in your stewardship and mortgage reduction payments before you leave for vacation. God bless you for your support of our parish!

Festival Lawn Signs: Please return any Festival Lawn Signs that you may have taken, as we recycle them. You may place them in the alcove outside of the Office Entrance.

Please Update Your Contact Information: Have you moved recently? Are you receiving our weekly emails and occasional phone calls? If any of your contact information has changed (emails, phone numbers, address) please send an email to the Parish office at office@saintsophiachurch.org to update this information. Thank you!

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sun. June 23 rd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Holy Pentecost
June 24 th through June 28 th		Fr. Symeon away – Camp Good Shepherd, Branchville, NJ
Sat. June 29 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Peter & Paul the Holy Apostles
Sun. June 30 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Synaxis of the Twelve Holy Apostles
June 30 th through July 4 th		Fr. Symeon away – 47 th Biennial Clergy-Laity Congress, San Diego, CA
Thurs. July 4th		Independence Day – Parish office is closed
Fri. July 5th		Parish office is closed
Sun. July 7 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 2 nd Sunday of Matthew
Sun. July 14 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Sat. July 20 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy The Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah)
Sun. July 21 st	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Sun. July 28 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Senior Citizen Ministry: St. Sophia’s Senior Parea is open to all senior citizens of the community. The meetings take place on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12 noon.

Mortgage Reduction Report & Financial Dashboard: Included in this bulletin are the Financial Dashboard and Mortgage Reduction reports for May 2024.

If you have any questions about the data presented in the Financial Dashboard chart, please feel free to reach out to Alex Nikas, Treasurer; Tom Cox, Stewardship chairperson; or John Pogas, Parish Council President.