

A PRAYER TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

“ Holy Forerunner John, the Baptizer of our Lord Jesus Christ: you were the last of the prophets and among the first of the martyrs; you were the instructor of fasters and desert-dwellers and a teacher of purity. We sing your praises as being the “ . . . greatest of those born of woman.” We humbly beseech you to assist us in knowing our place in life, just as you recognized that it was necessary for you to “step back” and allow the Lord to take His own rightful place as the One Who was the answer to your “ . . . voice crying in the wilderness.” You proclaimed the teachings of the prophets of old about the coming of the Messiah. Help us to seek the repentance that you urged so many to search for as you baptized along the banks of the Jordan River, so that one day we may be worthy of entering the Kingdom of Heaven. As we commemorate your beheading through the treachery of Herodias and Salome, may we be inspired by your example of always speaking and defending the truth — even at the expense of sacrificing your own life in the process. O great and glorious John the Baptist, receive from us this heartfelt supplication which we offer to you with the hope that our intentions are pleasing to God. Deliver us from evil of every kind and rescue us from eternal torment. Make us heirs to God’s eternal dwelling place and intercede for us before the Throne of our Heavenly Father. For you are the radiance of the shining light of the Gospel and the fulfillment of God’s promise to mankind. Amen.”



The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.



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



August 25, 2024
9th Sunday of Matthew
Return of the Body of Bartholomew the Glorious Apostle
Titus the Apostle of the 70

John the Cappadocian, Epiphanius and Menas, Patriarchs of Constantinople



ENTRANCE HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion – Ex Ipsus Katilthes (“From On High You Descended”)

From on high you descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord.

Apolytikion for the Apostles – Apostoli Aghii (“Most Holy Apostles”)

O holy Apostles, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

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

Greek

Ὡς ελαία κατά καρπος ανεβλάστησας, ἐν ταῖς ἀνταῖς τοῦ Κυρίου, Σοφία μάρτυς σεμνή, καί προσήγαγες Χριστῷ καρπὸν ἡ δύτατον, τοὺς τῆς νηδύος σου βλαστοὺς, διὰ γόνων εὐάγων, Ἀγάπην τε καὶ Ἐλπίδα σὺν τῇ θεόφρονι Πίστει, μεθῶν δυσώπει υπέρ πάντων ἡμῶν.

English Phonetics for Greek

Os elea kata karpos anevlastisas, en tes avles tu Kyriou Sofia martys 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 – Ioakim ke Anna (“Joachim & Anna”)

Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility's stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality's ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For this do your people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, “The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”

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



REGISTRATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starts Sunday, September 15th

GREEK SCHOOL

START DATES

September 26th (children)

September 29th (adults)



Scan QR Code

For complete list of Youth Ministries for **ALL AGES** and to Register

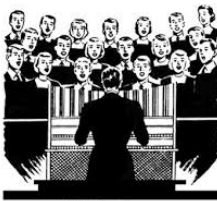
Exciting Mortgage Reduction News! An anonymous donor has come forward to match donations made to the mortgage reduction fund **up to \$100,000** for 2024. This is a great opportunity to reduce our mortgage by **one-third**. With your help, we will make a huge difference in our mortgage expenses.

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!

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.

To Parents of Young Children: In case you are not aware, our church has a Cry/Bride Room in the Narthex. For those parents whose young children might understandably get fussy during a service, please feel free to take your youngster into that room for a short while. (There is a closed-circuit TV showing the service in the room as well as a bathroom/changing station). The intention is NOT to relegate you to another room; rather, this will enable you to attend to your child in a quiet environment before bringing him/her back into the church.

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 tcoc@mysolutions.com. Thank you!



Communion wine as a church donation: Communion wine is always needed by the church. If you would like to donate wine, Fr. Symeon prefers the following wines: St. John Commandaria (of Cyprus), Nama Byzantino Sweet Red Wine, or Manischewitz Concord Grape.

Help us keep the vigil lamps burning bright: Olive oil is a perpetual need for the church to keep the vigil lamps or καντήλια (kandilia) burning bright. If you would like to donate olive oil, you may bring it to the Parish office at any time throughout the year.

Epistle Reading

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 3:9-17

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.*

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 3:9-17 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

*Εὐξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν.
Στίχ. Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός, ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ μέγα τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ.*

Ἀδελφοί, Θεοῦ γὰρ ἐσμεν συνεργοί· Θεοῦ γεώργιον, Θεοῦ οἰκοδομὴ ἐστε. Κατὰ τὴν χάριν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὴν δοθεῖσάν μοι, ὡς σοφὸς ἀρχιτέκτων θεμέλιον τέθεικα, ἄλλος δὲ ἐποικοδομεῖ. Ἐκαστος δὲ βλεπέτω πῶς ἐποικοδομεῖ. Θεμέλιον γὰρ ἄλλον οὐδεὶς δύναται θεῖναι παρὰ τὸν κείμενον, ὅς ἐστιν Ἰησοῦς Χριστός. Εἰ δὲ τις ἐποικοδομεῖ ἐπὶ τὸν θεμέλιον τοῦτον χρυσόν, ἄργυρον, λίθους τιμίους, ξύλα, χόρτον, καλάμην, ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον φανερόν γενήσεται· ἢ γὰρ ἡμέρα δηλώσει, ὅτι ἐν πυρὶ ἀποκαλύπτεται· καὶ ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον ὁποῖόν ἐστιν τὸ πῦρ δοκιμάσει. Εἴ τις τὸ ἔργον μένει ὁ ἐποικοδόμησεν, μισθὸν λήψεται. Εἴ τις τὸ ἔργον κατακαήσεται, ζημιωθήσεται· αὐτὸς δὲ σωθήσεται, οὕτως δὲ ὡς διὰ πυρός. Οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι ναὸς Θεοῦ ἐστε, καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ Θεοῦ οἰκεῖ ἐν ὑμῖν; Εἴ τις τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ φθείρει, φθερεῖ τοῦτον ὁ Θεός· ὁ γὰρ ναὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ ἅγιός ἐστιν, οἵτινές ἐστε ὑμεῖς.

GOSPEL READING
The Gospel According to Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 14:22-34 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

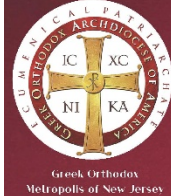
Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἠνάγκασεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς μαθητὰς ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὸ πλοῖον καὶ προάγειν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πέραν, ἕως οὗ ἀπολύσῃ τοὺς ὄχλους. Καὶ ἀπολύσας τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ ὄρος κατ' ἰδίαν προσεύξασθαι. ὁψίας δὲ γενομένης μόνος ἦν ἐκεῖ. Τὸ δὲ πλοῖον ἤδη σταδίου πολλοὺς ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἀπέιχεν, βασανιζόμενον ὑπὸ τῶν κυμάτων, ἦν γὰρ ἐναντίος ὁ ἄνεμος. Τετάρτη δὲ φυλακῆ τῆς νυκτὸς ἦλθεν πρὸς αὐτοὺς περιπατῶν ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν. Οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης περιπατοῦντα ἐταράχθησαν λέγοντες ὅτι φάντασμα ἐστίν, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ φόβου ἔκραζαν. Εὐθύς δὲ ἐλάλησεν [ὁ Ἰησοῦς] αὐτοῖς λέγων, Θαρσέετε, ἐγὼ εἰμι· μὴ φοβεῖσθε. Ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν, Κύριε, εἰ σὺ εἶ, κέλευσόν με ἐλθεῖν πρὸς σὲ ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα· ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, Ἐλθέ. καὶ καταβὰς ἀπὸ τοῦ πλοίου ὁ Πέτρος περιεπάτησεν ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα καὶ ἦλθεν πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν. Βλέπων δὲ τὸν ἄνεμον ἐφοβήθη, καὶ ἀρξάμενος καταποντίζεσθαι ἔκραξεν λέγων, Κύριε, σῶσόν με. Εὐθέως δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκτείνας τὴν χεῖρα ἐπέλαβετο αὐτοῦ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Ὀλιγόπιστε, εἰς τί ἐδίστασας; καὶ ἀναβάντων αὐτῶν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ἐκόπασεν ὁ ἄνεμος. Οἱ δὲ ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες, Ἀληθῶς Θεοῦ υἱὸς εἶ. Καὶ διαπεράσαντες ἦλθον ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν εἰς Γεννησαρέτ.

August 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 August will be provided to the Media FreeStore, working to mitigate rising costs of living and recycling goods. You can learn more about this worthwhile organization at <https://transitiontownmedia.org/volunteer/working-groups/freestore>.

We ask that you pray for those who benefit from their efforts, 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!



**Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey**

**Hierarchical Great Vespers
Monday, September 16, 2024
6:30 P.M.**

&

**Orthros, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, September 17, 2024
9:00 A.M.**

**SS. Sophia, Faith, Hope & Agape
Greek Orthodox Church
900 S Trooper Road
Jeffersonville, PA 19403**



ST. SOPHIA PHILOPTOCHOS

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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 εἰσενέγκῃς 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

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." Philipians 4:6-7

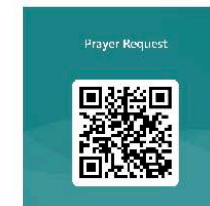
"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing you will receive." Matthew 21:22

"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:

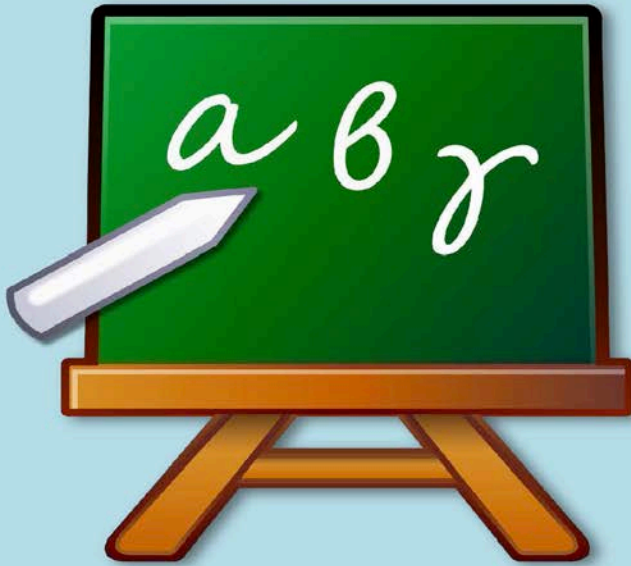
1. Fill out a request form at the box found in the church narthex **OR**
2. Send an email to Prayers@SaintSophiaChurch.org **OR**
3. Use the anonymous online form (the link is found under Prayer Ministry on our website), or you can use this link <https://forms.office.com/rkMx49JdptM> **OR**
4. Use the QR form below (also found on the box in the narthex) which takes you to the anonymous form.



Saint Sophia Greek School 2024-2025

Register Now!

Classes start September 26, 2024



For more information or to register,
please contact Dimitra Klapakis at [623-363-0980](tel:623-363-0980) or
dimitrklapakis19@gmail.com

Or visit www.saintsophiachurch.org/greeklanguageschool

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.

August 25, 2024
9th Sunday of Matthew
Return of the Body of Bartholomew the Glorious Apostle
Titus the Apostle of the 70

John the Cappadocian, Epiphanius and Menas, Patriarchs of Constantinople



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.

Memorial: Today's memorial is chanted for the souls of:

- ✘ **Andreas Tsipras (6 months)**, beloved father of Seraphim (Patricia) and pappou to Alexandra and Jacob. He was predeceased by his wife Ekaterini and their son Demetrios. Andreas was survived also by his brothers Socratis (Ekaterini), Evangelos (Sofia), and Elias (Paraskevi); sisters, Roxani and Sofia (Vasilios); two sisters-in-law, Evridiki and Kalliope, and many nieces and nephews and their families. May his memory be eternal.
- ✘ **Cynthia (Cindy) Watts (1 year)**, beloved wife of Bob and mother of Lexie. May her memory be eternal.

Coffee Hour: Thank you to Matt & Joann Bannon *and* Shaun & Tabatha McElhinney for hosting today's coffee hour. ***Belated Happy Birthday to Matt and Tabatha***, who celebrated on August 12th!

Coffee Hour Sponsors Needed: Thank you to everyone who has sponsored coffee hour recently. Currently, we need a sponsor for **next Sunday (9/1)** as well as several Sundays in September and October. If you are interested in sponsoring 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. **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 (made payable to St. Sophia Church) to offset these expenses. Thank you!**

Ministries Sunday: Do you have questions on how to enroll your kids in GOYA, JOY/HOPE, Sunday School, Greek School, or Greek Dance? Are there requirements? What exactly does AHEPA do? Or Parish Council? And what does the Ladies Philoptochos Society do for the Parish and our community? Well, we've got answers! On Sunday September 8th, we will have a Ministries Fair in the hall during coffee hour. Think of a college fair but for the many ministries of our parish. Hope to see you there!

Register for Youth Ministries: We have now made it easy for you to register your child(ren) for any of the Youth Ministries using just one online registration form! Just click on the link that follows to register [REGISTER](#). You may also use your cell phone to register using the QR code located on the flyer on the last page of this bulletin.

Register for Greek Language Classes: Registration packets are available at the Pangari and on our website: <https://www.saintsophiachurch.org/greeklanguageschool>.

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.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sun. Aug. 25 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 9 th Sunday of Matthew
Thurs. Aug. 29 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Sun. Sept. 1 st	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Ecclesiastical New Year
Mon. Sept. 2 nd		Labor Day – the Parish Office is Closed
Sun. Sept. 8 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Nativity of the Theotokos Ministries Sunday during Coffee Hour
Mon. Sept. 9 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Holy & Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim & Anna
Sat. Sept. 14 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross
Sun. Sept. 15 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday after Holy Cross Sunday school classes begin
		Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey for St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape Feast Day
Mon. Sept. 16 th	6:30 pm	Hierarchical Great Vespers & Artoklasia St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape Dessert reception to follow
Tues. Sept. 17 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy St. Sophia/Ss Faith, Hope & Agape Luncheon to follow
Sun. Sept. 22 nd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 1 st Sunday of Luke
Thurs. Sept. 26 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy St. John the Evangelist
		Greek school classes begin (children)
Sun. Sept. 29 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 2 nd Sunday of Luke
	12:15 pm	Greek school classes begin (adults)

Regarding Red Votive Candles

Beloved Parish Family,

We ask that candles no longer be placed on the floor in front of the Iconostasis. Red votive candles should instead be placed in the candle stands in front of the first pews or in the Narthex. We understand that this change may be an inconvenience for some parishioners, but we are confident that everyone will appreciate our reasoning for this decision. This change is to ensure safety and reduce the risk of another fire, to comply with changes to our insurance policy, to prevent tripping when venerating icons on the Iconostasis, and to protect our beautiful Iconostasis from future soot damage as advised by the Iconographers. Any candles that are inadvertently placed in front of the Iconostasis will be promptly and respectfully moved to a candle stand by a Parish Council Member.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Fr. Symeon Williams and Parish Council



MORTGAGE REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

We would like to thank the following stewards and friends of St. Sophia for contributing to the Mortgage Reduction Campaign for July. The total for July was \$1442.

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

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Altum	Mr. & Mrs. Edward McAdoo	Mr. & Mrs. Aram Piligian
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Bannon	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Moses	Mr. & Mrs. Constantine Samios
Mr. & Mrs. George Coutavas	Mrs. Bessie Neofotistos	Mrs. Shirley Tripolitis
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Diccianni	Dr. Marianne & Mr. Alexander Nikas	Ms. Katherine Tsipras
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kane	Ms. Sophia Papadakes	Mr. & Mrs. Socratis Tsipras
Mrs. Evangelia A. Klapakis	Mr. & Mrs. John Papadimitriou	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vail
Mr. & Mrs. Bart Kline	Dr. & Mrs. Peter Patukas	Mr. & Mrs. Roger Witt
Mrs. Effie Liacouras		Mr. & Mrs. Charles Zarcone