

St. Sophia/SS. Faith, Hope & Agape Greek Orthodox Church
February 16, 2025



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



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

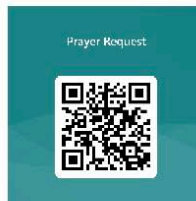
"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing you will receive." Matthew 21:22

"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 St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20

*Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Ἀνάγνωσις ἐπιστολῆς Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 6:12-20 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

*Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς.
Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε δίκαιοι ἐν Κυρίῳ*

Ἀδελφοί, πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐ πάντα συμφέρει· πάντα μοι ἔξεστιν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐγὼ ἐξουσιασθήσομαι ὑπὸ τινος. Τὰ βρώματα τῆ κοιλία, καὶ ἡ κοιλία τοῖς βρώμασιν· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ ταύτην καὶ ταῦτα καταργήσει. Τὸ δὲ σῶμα οὐ τῆ πορνείᾳ, ἀλλὰ τῷ κυρίῳ, καὶ ὁ κύριος τῷ σώματι· ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ τὸν κύριον ἡγείρεν καὶ ἡμᾶς ἐξεγερεῖ διὰ τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ. Οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν μέλη Χριστοῦ ἐστί; Ἄρα οὖν τὰ μέλη τοῦ Χριστοῦ ποιήσω πόρνης μέλη; Μὴ γένοιτο. Οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι ὁ κολλώμενος τῆ πόρνη ἐν σώμα ἐστίν; Ἔσονται γάρ, φησίν, οἱ δύο εἰς σάρκα μίαν. Ὁ δὲ κολλώμενος τῷ κυρίῳ ἐν πνεύμα ἐστίν. Φεύγετε τὴν πορνείαν. Πᾶν ἁμάρτημα ὃ ἐὰν ποιήσῃ ἄνθρωπος ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματός ἐστιν· ὁ δὲ πορνεύων εἰς τὸ ἴδιον σῶμα ἁμαρτάνει. Ἡ οὐκ οἴδατε ὅτι τὸ σῶμα ὑμῶν ναὸς τοῦ ἐν ὑμῖν ἁγίου πνεύματος ἐστίν, οὗ ἔχετε ἀπὸ θεοῦ; Καὶ οὐκ ἐστὲ ἑαυτῶν, ἡγοράσθητε γὰρ τιμῆς· δοξάσατε δὴ τὸν θεὸν ἐν τῷ σώματι ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐν τῷ πνεύματι ὑμῶν, ἅτινά ἐστιν τοῦ θεοῦ.

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel According to Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

February 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 to a specific charitable organization selected by Philoptochos.

Donations made to the Philoptochos Poor Box in February will be provided to the International Orthodox Christian Charities Emergency Response Network for its work in assisting those affected by the California fires. You can learn more about IOCC's efforts here: www.IOCC.org. In your prayers, please remember those suffering as a result of the devastation as well as the relief workers.

Thank you for your generosity in support of St. Sophia Philoptochos's efforts in supporting organizations in our mission to "help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters, to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the church through fundraising efforts".

 **BETTER
DAYS
AHEAD**
IN-NEED OUTREACH
FOR SUBURBS & PHILADELPHIA

**FILL A
BACKPACK DRIVE**

**Philoptochos is collecting items towards a backpack drive
for Better Days Ahead of Phoenixville, PA.**











**For more information on this organization or to
view donation needs, visit www.saintsophiachurch.org/bda.**

The deadline for donation dropoff is Saturday, March 22nd.

**ASSEMBLED BACKPACKS WITH DONATED ITEMS WILL BE
DISTRIBUTED TO HOUSELESS INDIVIDUALS IN OUR AREA**

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 15:11-32 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 9th	 Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week FEBRUARY 16th	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 23rd FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 2nd FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! FORGIVENESS SUNDAY Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 9th	 SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 16th	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent MARCH 23rd	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS HALF WAY TO PASCHA! Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent MARCH 30th	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 6th	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 13th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 18th	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 20th NO FASTING!	 HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωπός τις εἶχε δύο υἱούς· καὶ εἶπεν ὁ νεώτερος αὐτῶν τῷ πατρί· πάτερ, δός μοι τὸ ἐπιβάλλον μέρος τῆς οὐσίας· καὶ διεῖλεν αὐτοῖς τὸν βίον· καὶ μετ' οὐ πολλὰς ἡμέρας συναγαγὼν ἅπαντα ὁ νεώτερος υἱὸς ἀπεδήμησεν εἰς χώραν μακρὰν, καὶ ἐκεῖ διεσκόρπισε τὴν οὐσίαν αὐτοῦ ζῶν ἀσώτως· δαπανήσαντος δὲ αὐτοῦ πάντα ἐγένετο λιμὸς ἰσχυρὸς κατὰ τὴν χώραν ἐκείνην, καὶ αὐτὸς ἠρῆατο ὑστερεῖσθαι· καὶ πορευθεὶς ἐκολλήθη ἐνὶ τῶν πολιτῶν τῆς χώρας ἐκείνης, καὶ ἔπεμψεν αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς αὐτοῦ βόσκειν χοίρους· καὶ ἐπεθύμει γεμίσει τὴν κοιλίαν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν κερατίων ὧν ἤσθιον οἱ χοῖροι, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐδίδου αὐτῷ· εἰς ἑαυτὸν δὲ ἐλθὼν εἶπε· πόσοι μίσθιοι τοῦ πατρὸς μου περισσεύουσιν ἄρτων, ἐγὼ δὲ λιμῷ ἀπόλλυμαι! ἀναστὰς πορεύσομαι πρὸς τὸν πατέρα μου καὶ ἐρῶ αὐτῷ· πάτερ, ἤμαρτον εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ ἐνώπιόν σου· οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἄξιος κληθῆναι υἱὸς σου· ποιήσόν με ὡς ἓνα τῶν μισθίων σου· καὶ ἀναστὰς ἦλθε πρὸς τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ· ἔτι δὲ αὐτοῦ μακρὰν ἀπέχοντος εἶδεν αὐτὸν ὁ πατήρ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ δραμῶν ἐπέπεσεν ἐπὶ τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ καὶ κατεφίλησεν αὐτόν· εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ υἱός· πάτερ, ἤμαρτον εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ ἐνώπιόν σου, καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἄξιος κληθῆναι υἱὸς σου· εἶπε δὲ ὁ πατήρ πρὸς τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ· ἔξενέγκατε τὴν στολὴν τὴν πρώτην καὶ ἐνδύσατε αὐτόν, καὶ δότε δακτύλιον εἰς τὴν χεῖρα αὐτοῦ καὶ ὑποδήματα εἰς τοὺς πόδας, καὶ ἐνέγκαντες τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτὸν θύσατε, καὶ φαγόντες εὐφρανθῶμεν, ὅτι οὗτος ὁ υἱός μου νεκρὸς ἦν καὶ ἀνέζησε, καὶ ἀπολωλὼς ἦν καὶ εὐρέθη· καὶ ἤρξαντο εὐφραίνεσθαι· Ἦν δὲ ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ὁ πρεσβύτερος ἐν ἀγρῷ· καὶ ὡς ἐρχόμενος ἤγγισε τῇ οἰκίᾳ, ἤκουσε συμφωνίας καὶ χορῶν, καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος ἓνα τῶν παιδῶν ἐπυνθάνετο τί εἶη ταῦτα· ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὅτι ὁ ἀδελφός σου ἦκει καὶ ἔθυσεν ὁ πατήρ σου τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτόν, ὅτι ὑγιαίνοντα αὐτόν ἀπέλαβεν· ὠργίσθη δὲ καὶ οὐκ ἤθελεν εἰσελθεῖν· ὁ οὖν πατήρ αὐτοῦ ἐξελθὼν παρεκάλει αὐτόν· ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπε τῷ πατρί· ἰδοὺ τοσαῦτα ἔτη δουλεύω σοι καὶ οὐδέποτε ἐντολήν σου παρήλθον, καὶ ἐμοὶ οὐδέποτε ἔδωκας ἔριφον ἵνα μετὰ τῶν φίλων μου εὐφρανθῶ· ὅτε δὲ ὁ υἱὸς σου οὗτος, ὁ καταφαγὼν σου τὸν βίον μετὰ πορνῶν, ἦλθεν, ἔθυσας αὐτῷ τὸν μόσχον τὸν σιτευτόν· ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τέκνον, σὺ πάντοτε μετ' ἐμοῦ εἶ, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐμὰ σὰ ἐστίν· εὐφρανθῆναι δὲ καὶ χαρῆναι ἔδει, ὅτι ὁ ἀδελφός σου οὗτος νεκρὸς ἦν καὶ ἀνέζησε, καὶ ἀπολωλὼς ἦν καὶ εὐρέθη.

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



ALTAR SERVER RETREAT

Led by His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 2 P.M.

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church
900 S Trooper Road, Jeffersonville, PA 19403

[REGISTER HERE!](#)





Interfaith Blood Drive

St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church
and

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Wednesday March 12th, 2025

1:30PM – 6:30PM

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church – Hall
900 S. Trooper Rd
Norristown, PA 19403

Sign up at redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code:

PAInterfaith

SCAN TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT



Save lives and empower your health!

Give in March for a \$10 Gift Card by email & successful donations get A1C testing.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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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 ῥύσαι 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-óu-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 Kerxhali,
orthodoxtoday.wordpress.com

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.

St. Sophia Philoptochos

PASTA CARNIVAL

SUN 12PM | MARCH 2ND
AFTER DIVINE LITURGY

BAKED ZITI - SALAD - GARLIC BREAD
DESSERT - BEVERAGE

\$12 DONATION



PHILLY CHEESESTEAK LUNCH FEBRUARY 23

*Cheesesteak
French Fries - Drink*
Only \$15



**JOIN OUT LOCAL AHEPA CHAPTER
FOR DETAILS**

MATT STOLARCZYK mattstolarczyk@cs.com (215)740-8841

AHEPA THANKS YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

February 16, 2025
Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Pamphilus the Martyr & his Companions
Flavianos, Patriarch of Constantinople
Romanos the Younger



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.

Saturday of Souls: The first Saturday of Souls is **Saturday, February 22nd**. Forms for the names of the departed are available at the Pangari (and attached). Please submit your names to the Parish office by February 21st at 12 noon. **Please DO NOT text the names or submit them via Facebook.** Please also remember your loved ones by not only submitting their names, but by making koliva and attending the holy services to offer your own prayers for their eternal rest. Please remember that the names you submit are read on all three Saturdays. Please **PRINT CLEARLY, AND ONLY BAPTISMAL FIRST NAMES ARE NECESSARY.**

House Blessings: If you wish to have your homes and/or businesses blessed before the beginning of Great Lent, please contact the Parish office to schedule a visitation (office@saintsophiachurch.org or 610-650-8960.)

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.

The Choir is Looking for New Members: Can you sing? Do you play piano? The choir is always 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 tcox@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: Nama Byzantino Sweet Red Wine OR St. John Commandaria (of Cyprus).

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Fri-Sun, 2/14-16		Music & Dance Festival, Sheraton Hotel Downtown Philadelphia
Sun. Feb. 16 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday of the Prodigal Son
	12:15 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Thurs. Feb. 20 th	4:30 pm	Greek School (Children)
Fri. Feb. 21 st	6:30 pm	Kolyva class (in the Parish kitchen)
Sat. Feb. 22 nd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Souls
Sun. Feb. 23 rd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Judgment Sunday (Meatfare) Parish Oratorical Festival following Divine Liturgy AHEPA Cheesesteak Fundraiser
	12:15 pm	Greek School (Adults)
Thurs. Feb. 27 th	4:30 pm	Greek School (Children)
Fri. Feb. 28 th	6:30 pm	Adult Catechism (led by Fr. Symeon) – in the church hall
Sat. Mar. 1 st	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Souls
Sun. Mar. 2 nd	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) Philoptochos Fundraiser – Pasta Carnival
	12:15 pm	Greek School (Adults)
	5:00 pm	Vespers of Forgiveness
Mon. Mar. 3 rd	6:30 pm	Great Compline - <i>Great Lent Begins</i>
Wed. Mar. 5 th	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Thurs. Mar. 6 th	4:30 pm	Greek School (Children)
Fri. Mar. 7 th	6:30 pm	Salutation to the Theotokos
	7:30 pm	Potluck & Lecture
Sat. Mar. 8 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Saturday of Souls
Sun. Mar. 9 th	8:45 am	Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Sunday of Orthodoxy Daylight Saving Time Begins
	12:15 pm	Greek School (Adults)

KOLIVA CLASS



Learn how to prepare koliva for Saturday of Souls
and the importance of remembering our loved ones after they
have fallen asleep in the Lord

FRIDAY, FEB. 21 AT 6:30PM

IN THE PARISH KITCHEN

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

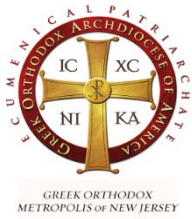
no later than Wed 2/19

in order to have sufficient ingredients for all

Pre-Cooked Sitari for Sale: \$10 for 1lb bag

EMAIL LADIES@SAINTSOPHIACHURCH.ORG

OR CALL/TEXT LUCY KLINE AT 215/206-8180



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
Web: www.saintsophiachurch.org E-mail: office@saintsophiachurch.org
Rev. Fr. Symeon Williams, Proistamenos



**Announcing the
Agape Society
Planned Giving Program**

Dear St. Sophia Stewards and Friends:

As we progress with our Strategic Planning process, we are excited to announce the launch of the St. Sophia planned giving program which we have named the **Agape Society**.

What is Planned Giving?

Planned Giving is a way that Stewards can make a lasting impact on the St. Sophia community by including the church in their estate plans with a meaningful gift after they fall asleep in the Lord. An easy way to do this is to name St. Sophia/Ss. Faith Hope & Agape Greek Orthodox church as a percentage beneficiary of a retirement account such as a 401(k) or IRA, or a life insurance policy. Another way is to include the Church in an Estate Plan.

What is an Estate Plan?

Estate planning is the process where you outline who gets your estate when you pass away in a planned manner to help with inheritance tax and other costs. Some of the tools used in estate planning are wills, trusts and related documents. It is something that everyone should do regardless of the size of the estate. You do not need to be rich to have an Estate Plan, but it is advisable to have an estate attorney assist you in creating Estate Plan documents. We are fortunate to have attorneys in our community who have volunteered to give estate planning advice free of charge to Stewards of St. Sophia to help us launch our Agape Society Planned Giving Program. Please contact the Church office for the current list of attorneys who support the program.

What is the Agape Society?

In addition to being the youngest daughter of St. Sophia and one of the martyred saints to which our Church is dedicated, *Agape* (Αγάπη) is also an ancient Greek word that means unconditional charitable love. What better way to show your unconditional charitable love for your Church than to participate in planned giving? Participants in this program will be acknowledged as a member of the Agape Society in church communications.

Please join us in the spirit of Agape and consider making a planned gift to ensure the long-term future of our parish.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Symeon Williams
Proistamenos

John Pogas
Parish Council President