

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church

Parish Office: 107 Clinton Street, Schenectady, New York 12305

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9 AM - 2 PM

Parish Telephone: (518) 393-0742; **Fax:** (518) 393-4093

Web: www.saintgeorgegoc.com



Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes, Presiding Parish Priest
Camille Kosloski, Parish Secretary

Sunday Services: Orthros: 9:00 AM; Divine Liturgy: 10:00 AM
~ Week Day Liturgies as announced ~

Parish Council Exec. Committee

Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes
Presiding Parish Priest

Mrs. Athena Pagnotti
President

Mrs. Lucy Brady
Vice-President

Mrs. Alexandra Casey
Treasurer

Mr. Brian Goodale
Secretary



Youth Advisors

Mrs. Lucy Goodale
Mrs. Paula Kingra
Angels/Hope/Joy

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morlock
GOYA

Miss Georgia Tsakopiakos
Youth Hellenic Dancers

Parish Ministry Leaders

Ms. Olga Delorey
Choir Director
Philoptochos Society President

Mrs. Athena Pagnotti
Sunday School Coordinator

Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes
Bible Study
Spiritual Book Club

Mrs. Eliana Georgelos
Mr. Paul Pagiotas
Fellowship Group
Co-Presidents

Parish Council Members: Lucy Brady, Alexandra Casey, Kyriako Contompasis, Anargyros (Ron) Dikas, Brian Goodale, Maria Dostis-Koliatsis, Dimitrios Koutsopoulos, and Athena Pagnotti

Sacraments, Services and Home Visitations

Holy Baptism · Holy Chrismation · Holy Confession

Holy Communion · Holy Unction · Holy Marriage

Please contact the Parish Office directly to schedule.

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As we enter this new year full of hope and expectations, we inevitably turn towards the familiar creation of resolutions. We pledge to lose weight, quit smoking, perhaps use social media sites less frequently. All of these things are beneficial, of course. Taking care of ourselves physically and relying on interpersonal relationships over digital ones, help our bodies and our emotional well-being. Achieving goals such as these are healthy and worthwhile- something that we should all strive for. One thing that I have noticed, however, is that it is extremely rare to hear one make a resolution that benefits one's spiritual health.

We were created by God with both a physical half and a spiritual half. To exclude one over the other would be to deny our completeness as created beings, and to exist in only a partial way. Cardiovascular exercise strengthens the heart in the way that prayer strengthens the spirit. Healthy eating nourishes the body just as the receiving of Holy Communion nourishes our souls.

This year, please attempt to make a concerted effort to revitalize your spiritual lives by enhancing and creating a daily routine of personal prayer, reading Scripture, and participating in the sacramental life of the Church. This is something that we all need to work on, but it CAN be done. Remember, just as we look after our bodies, we must take care of our souls as well-both parts are important.

Imagine trying to drive a car with only two wheels. You won't make it very far.

With Pastoral Love in Christ,
Fr. Sean



Vasilopita Celebration 2017

LENT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2017

GREAT LENT

- ❖ Monday, Feb. 27th: (**Great Lent Begins**) Compline @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, March 1st: Presanctified Liturgy @10AM
- ❖ Friday, March 3rd: Salutations @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, March 8th: Presanctified Liturgy @6PM
- ❖ Friday, March 10th: Salutations @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, March 15th: Presanctified Liturgy @10AM
- ❖ Friday, March 17th: Salutations @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, March 22nd: Presanctified Liturgy @6PM
- ❖ Friday, March 24th: Great Vespers @6PM
- ❖ Saturday, March 25th: Divine Liturgy (**Annunciation**) @10AM
- ❖ Wednesday, March 29th: Presanctified Liturgy @10AM
- ❖ Friday, March 31st: Salutations (Akathist Hymn) @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, April 5th: Presanctified Liturgy @6PM
- ❖ Saturday, April 8th: Saturday of Lazarus- Divine Liturgy @10AM

HOLY WEEK

- ❖ Sunday, April 9th: **Palm Sunday**- Orthros/Divine Liturgy @9AM, Bridegroom Service @6PM
- ❖ Monday, April 10th: **Holy Monday**- Bridegroom Service @6PM
- ❖ Tuesday, April 11th: **Holy Tuesday**- Bridegroom Service @6PM
- ❖ Wednesday, April 12th: **Holy Wednesday**- Service of Holy Unction @6PM
- ❖ Thursday, April 13th: **Holy Thursday**- Vespers Liturgy @10AM, Service of the 12 Gospels @6PM
- ❖ Friday, April 14th: **Holy Friday**- Royal Hours @10AM, Apokathelosis @3PM, Lamentations @6PM
- ❖ Saturday, April 15th: **Holy Saturday**- Protoanastasis @10AM, Resurrection Service @11PM
- ❖ Sunday, April 16th: **Great and Holy Pascha**- Agape Vespers @11AM



St. George GOC events on the horizon ~

February 5	Triodion Begins
February 18	Saturday of Souls
February 25	Saturday of Souls
February 26	Forgiveness Sunday Vespers, 5 pm, St. George. "Pot-luck" supper (<i>no meat, dairy is permitted</i>) to follow in Hellenic Center.
February 27	Holy Monday and the Beginning of Great Lent
March 4	Saturday of Souls

*Please contact the church office at 393-0742, to
schedule an appointment for Holy Confession.*

St. George Parish Statistics for 2016



Baptisms = 6

Marriages = 1

Funerals = 7

Welcome New Parish Council Members ~

Brian Goodale

Dr. Brian Goodale is currently employed by SUNY Empire State College in Saratoga where he serves as the Director of Academic Development in the Office of Academic Affairs. He joined Empire State in 2009 after working at the University at Albany where he was the Director of Graduate Admissions for the School of Public Health. Brian began his professional career in higher education administration at SUNY Cobleskill where he was an undergraduate admissions counselor. In addition, Brian was the Head Women's Volleyball Coach at the College of Saint Rose (NCAA Division II) for 17 years, a position he resigned from in December 2015 to spend more time with his family.

Brian's education includes a Ph.D. and M.S. from the University at Albany (both degrees in Higher Education Administration), and a B.S. in Marketing from Penn State University.

Brian grew up in Cobleskill, NY where he was a member of the United Methodist Church. During his time as a member, he served a two-year term on the Church Board. Brian started attending Saint George in 2007 after getting married to Lucy Goodale (Laskaris). After learning more about the faith, Brian was baptized and became an Orthodox Christian. Brian, Lucy and their son Tyler live in Clifton Park, NY.



Dimitri Koutsopoulos



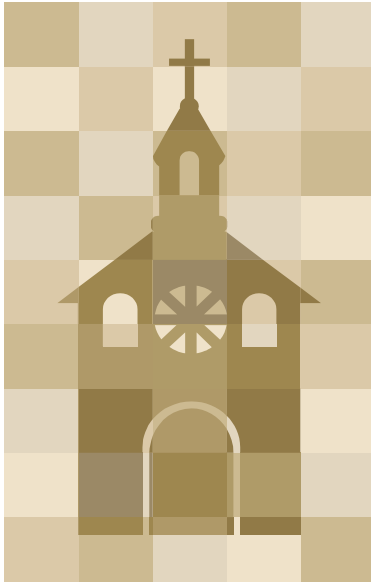
Dimitri Koutsopoulos is a Schenectady County resident who has been part of St. George's community since his baptism. While growing up, he regularly attended church at St. George and was a member of Fotia Hellenic Dance Society. Since 2009, he's volunteered each year at St. George's Greek Festival. While in college, Dimitri made an effort to attend volunteer events at the soup kitchen in Schenectady as well as other church activities.

Dimitri studied Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing and Information Technology Management at the University at Albany. He is currently a business consultant in upstate NY.

In his free time, Dimitri loves to read, work on projects, and spend time with his family, girl friend and friends.

Thank you ~

The Parish Council extends a heart-felt thank you to our retiring council members **Morgan Gazetos** and **Panagiota Giakoumis**. Thank you for your tireless efforts and good works. You will be missed!



***Bold print denotes
pledged members
who are paid in full.***

*Thank you to all who
have pledged thus far.*

*There is still room on the
list to add your name!
Please submit and fulfill
your pledge to St. George
Greek Orthodox Church
today.*

*To receive a pledge form,
please contact the parish
office at 393-0742, or ask
any parish council
member at church.*

2016 YEAR-END

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Pledge Goal: \$ 75,000.00

Total amount pledged to date: \$ 72,400.00

Total amount received to date: \$ 71,249.50

~ As of December 31st ~

Platinum Level Stewards \$1,500 +
Eight (8) Stewards

Gold Level Stewards \$1,000 — \$1,499
Fifteen (15) Stewards

Silver Level Stewards \$500 — \$999
Thirty (30) Stewards

Bronze Level Stewards \$499 or less
Eighty — three (83)

2016 St. George GOC Members Pledged to Date

Rev. Fr. Peter &
Presbytera Nina Daratsos
Rev. Fr. Theodore & Tatiana Roupas
Faith Adamec & Family
Peter and Gloria Andrikopoulos
Paul & Tiara Antonovich
Angela Aretakis
Stephanie Arrington
Vicki & Stephen Arrington
Eugenia Avramidis
Maryna Baker & Family
Athan Baskous
John Behiri
Nicholas & Eleni Behiri
Susan Birbilis
Lucy Brady & Family
Sam & Deborah Bratsos
Ifigenia Brown
Arji Cakouros

Dr. Fanny Caranikas
Patrick & Alexandra Casey & Family
Palmyra Catravas
Andreas Christou
Andreas & Panayiota Christou
Ariana Christou
Euripides & Eleni Christou
Patricia Chryssovergis
Catherine Contompasis
Catherine Contompasis
Charles Contompasis
Emanuel & MaryEllen Contompasis
Joan Contompasis
Demetra Corsones
Stephanie Cospito
George & Constantina Cotzas
Rena Counavelis
Marianne Crary

Chris & Joanne Dafniotis
Ciara D'Angelo
K&C Deligiannis
Olga Delorey
Joanne Diamantis
Anargyros (Ron) Dikas & Family
Marguerite Doulides
Angela Economou
Evan Euripidou
Michael & Elaine Euripidou
Morgan & Julie Gazetos
Demetrios Geanopoulos &
KimAthena Kakos
Arthur Georgelas
Helena Georgelas
Eliana Georgelos
Panagiota Giakoumis
Peter & Janet Giakoumis & Family
Steve & Alice Giakoumis
Brian and Lucy Goodale & Family
Angela T. Grivas
Dimitri Grivas & Family
Periklis Hais
Angelica Holzhauser & Family
Owen & Maria Huggins
Angeliki Jones
Thomas & Shannon Jones & Family
Peter & Dayna Kalil
Evangelia & Stavroula Kalogeras
Antonia Kananis & Family
Steve & Fanny Karamanos
George & Varvara Katsis
Polixeni Kingra & Family
Charles & Katheleen Koines
J. Maria Dostis-Koliatsis & Michael Koliatsis
Demetrios & Maria Kolios
Katina Kontakos
Maria Kontakos
Chris & Voula Kounoupis
Steven & Barbara Kouray
Barbara Koutsakis
Haralambos & Connie Koutsopoulos
Dimitrios Koutsopoulos
Anna Ktenas
Patricia Lambert & Family
Trifon & Zanetta Laskaris
Paul LaViolette
Christine Legorius
Frieda Legorius
Rosemary Legorius
Achilles & Anna Mafilios

William Manikas
James & Ann Mantas
Cathy Marco
Akrivi Markopoulos
Athena Markopoulos
Ann Markopoulos
Dimitryos & Joann Markopoulos
Stephen & Mary Markopoulos
Phil & Norina McGowen & Family
Cathy & Maria Menagias & Family
Fillipos & Erene Menagias
Georgio Menagias
Jerry & Angela Menagias
Demetra Mikropoulos
Spiro & Rena Mikropoulos
Theodore Mikropoulos
Scott & Anna Morlock & Family
Evangelos & Dina Nikolaidis
Simeon & Barbara Nikolaidis
Katherine Orfan
Paul & Joann Pagiotas
Athena Pagnotti & Family
Peter & Penney Pagones
Kostantinos & Debra Papanikos
Nick & Gladys Paravalos
Tony Poulos
Frank & Teresa Rossetti
LeGrande Serras
Elena Sikamiotis
Ourania Sokaris
Roubina Spyros-Morgan
Van & Anita Stathis
A. & Stavroula Stamoulis
Maria Stamoulis
James Stevens
Kaliopi Struffolino & Family
Olga Stryjski
George & Christie S. Svolos
Themetria Svolos
Angela Theodore
Helen Trinci
Melissa Verrigini & Family
Fanny Caraniakas-Walker
Mark Wempe
Brian & Megan Whipple
Peter Wilson
Peter Wilson & Family
Mary Wilson
Steve & Sophie Zanos
Anastasia Zoulas
Peter & Mary Zoulas



STEWARDSHIP

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is looking forward to a peaceful and healthy new year. The Stewardship Committee has received many pledge forms so far. Thank you for helping us to plan for the 2017 year by submitting your forms early. If you have not already submitted your form, please do so at your earliest convenience. It will help us to stay within our budget and get all the Church bills paid.

Your pledge is not just about what you can do for the Church. It's about what your responsibility is based on the gifts given to you by God.

In Christ,

Lucy Brady

Stewardship Comparisons Year-to-Year

2016 Pledge Goal: \$75,000.00

Year-end received: \$71,249.50

2015 Pledge Goal: \$ 73,000.00

Year-end received: \$ 68,407.00

2014 Pledge Goal: \$ 72,500.00

Year-end received: \$ 59,253.00

Information above reported in Jan/Feb 2016, 2015 and Feb 2014 community bulletins
and was based on year-end stewardship reports.

How are we doing?



**Please remember to submit your pledge of support by the beginning of Great Lent, Monday, February 27, 2017.
Thank you!**

Stewardship Pledge Form

Name _____ Envelope No. _____

After prayerful consideration, and in gratitude for God's blessings, I/we are prepared to offer a pledge to our parish for 2017, to continue the work of His One Holy Apostolic Church:

2017 Stewardship Pledge _____

Other (please specify) _____ Annually ___ Quarterly ___ Monthly ___ Weekly ___

Please leave comments below on how the Church can be of special assistance to you.

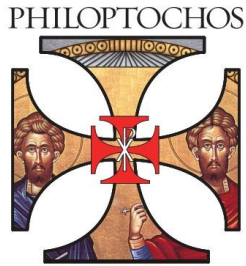
Thank you for your support of St. George Greek Orthodox Church.

Name _____

Stewardship of Time and Talents

Category	Member	Spouse	Child	Child	Child	Child
Altar Server						
Book Club/Bible Study						
Bereavement Supporter						
Choir/Chanter						
Church Usher						
Church Monthly Bulletin						
Epistle Reader						
Fellowship Group						
Festival Volunteer						
Dance Group						
Fund Raising and Special Events						
Philoptochos Society						
Parish Council						
Soup Kitchen Volunteer						
Oratorical Festival						
Sunday School						
"Thursday Morning Boys"						
Youth Group						

Stewardship contributions can be made on-line through www.saintgeorgeoc.com



MEETING NOTES. At the January 2017 monthly meeting, the membership approved the following donations:

Saint Basil Academy

Per Capita Membership to National Philoptochos and DAD

Quest for Grace

Center for Disability Services

National Philoptochos Social Services Fund

National Philoptochos Cancer Fund

STEWARDSHIP (MEMBERSHIP DUES). Please remember to pay your annual stewardship starting in January! The annual minimum is \$30.00. Please keep in mind, we must pay a \$23.00 per capita assessment for each member (\$15.00 to National Philoptochos and \$8.00 to Direct Archdiocesan District). The remaining amount of \$7.00 goes to our St. George Chapter. Any additional gift to the chapter, along with your annual stewardship dues, is always welcome.

GO RED SUNDAY. “Go Red For Women” is the American Heart Association’s national call to increase awareness and help prevent heart disease, the number one cause of death in American women. This is a call for women, by women, to take charge of their well-being and live stronger, healthier lives. Our chapter has designated **Sunday, February 5, 2017 “GO RED SUNDAY”** and we ask all Philoptochos sisters and parishioners to **wear red** to church on this day. Printed material on heart disease and prevention will be made available to those who are interested in receiving more information. For more information go to: www.goredforwomen.org

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DINNER. On **Sunday, February 12, 2017** the Ladies Philoptochos will sponsor a Spaghetti & Meatballs Dinner immediately following Divine Liturgy. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (under 12). Please see flyer in this month’s bulletin for further information.

SPECIAL THANKS. Our sincere thanks to all parishioners and Philoptochos members who made a donation to the Ladies Philoptochos for the **St. George Parish Christmas Card** and made or purchased beautiful items for our **2nd Annual Mitten Tree** to benefit the children at the City Mission of Schenectady. Special thanks to **Toly Svolos** who served as Christmas Card Chair again this year and to **Anna Ktenas** and **Gladys Paravalos** who made the Vasilopita which we cut on January 1, 2017. We also thank everyone who made a donation to the special tray collection for Saint Basil Academy.

FOOD PANTRY. Beginning **February 1, 2017** the Ladies Philoptochos will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen Food Pantry. A recent article in the *Daily Gazette* called attention to the fact that during the 2016 Christmas season, donations to the “Red Kettle” were significantly lower than amounts collected in previous years. As a result, the shelves at their community food pantry are noticeably empty. A collection box will be placed in the Hellenic Center and items will be delivered to the food pantry on the same day we prepare and serve the monthly meal at the Salvation Army. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

SOUP KITCHEN. On **Tuesday, November 29, 2016** our Philoptochos prepared and served dinner for **171 persons** at the **Salvation Army Soup Kitchen**. The Soup Kitchen was sponsored by **Thomas Jones In Memory of his father, Ed Jones**. May his memory be eternal. A Trisagion Service was chanted by Father Peter. The dinner consisted of Chicken Casserole with Vegetables and Rice, Green Beans, Bread & Butter, Fruit Cup, Dessert, Juice and Coffee. Our heartfelt thanks to the following team members who helped prepare and/or serve the meal on this day: **Kathy Koines (Chair), Charlie Koines, Mike Euripidou, Pete Kalil, Phil McGowen, Kiki Jones, Presbytera Nina Daratsos, Tina Twardzik, Bill Manikas and Father Peter Daratsos.**

On **Tuesday, December 27, 2016** we served dinner for **151 persons**. This Soup Kitchen was sponsored by **Ifigenia T. Brown In Memory of her Husband, Paul Brown**. May his memory be eternal. A Trisagion Service was chanted by Father Sean. A special Christmas meal consisted of Chicken Florentine with Penne Pasta, Green Beans, Bread & Butter, Dessert, Juice and Coffee. Our heartfelt thanks to the following team members who helped prepare and/or serve the meal on this day: **Kathy Koines (Chair), Charlie Koines, Pete Kalil, Steve and Alice Giakoumis, Peter Giakoumis, Andrew Giakoumis, Phil McGowen, Eliana Georgelos, Olga Delorey and Father Sean Govostes.**

In addition to their meal, each person received a special Christmas Treat Bag which was filled with a fresh orange, chocolate chip cookies, chocolate candies and a peppermint candy cane. Special thanks to **Gladys Paravalos, Lea Morlock and Nicolette Morlock** who came in early on Tuesday morning to prepare the Christmas Treat Bags!

*“...for I was hungry and you gave me food ...
...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My bretheren, you did it to Me”
Matthew 25: 35-40*

NEXT MEETING. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm.**

Ladies Philoptochos Society Board of Directors 2015-2017

Officers: Olga Delorey (President), Gladys Paravalos (Vice President & Advisor)
Zanetta Laskaris (Treasurer), Kathy Koines (Assistant Treasurer)
Elaine Euripidou (Secretary), Cathy Contompasis (Assistant Secretary)

Members: Lucy Brady, Presbytera Nina Daratsos, Joanne Diamantis, Eliana Georgelos
Alice Giakoumis, Aleka Menagias, Elena Sikamiotis

SPECIAL COFFEE HOURS may be arranged by contacting Coffee Hour Chair Lucy Brady (346-4722). A voluntary donation to the Ladies Philoptochos Society in addition to the expenses would be greatly appreciated.



A BIG THANK YOU!

from the Ladies Philoptochos Society

On Monday, December 12, 2016, we delivered the following items to the CITY MISSION OF SCHENECTADY that you donated for our Second Annual Mitten Tree!

86 Hats
19 Headbands
70 Pairs of Mittens & Gloves
46 Scarves
(above items included 19 "Sets" of Hats, Mittens and Scarves)

TOTAL: 221 Items!!



MEMORIAL SERVICES AND SPONSORSHIP OF A COFFEE HOUR

Please call the church office (393-0742) to schedule a memorial service. After receiving confirmation from our church secretary, please contact Lucy Brady, Coffee Hour Chairperson at 346-4722 or lukia@nycap.rr.com if you wish to sponsor a coffee hour.

The St. George Ladies Philoptochos oversees the coffee hours after church. For those who wish to sponsor a coffee hour, the following expenses should be expected.

Food: The food provided for a memorial is a combination of baked good items, cookies, etc. A quart of milk for the coffee and half-gallon of orange juice for the children is included. These items can be purchased by your family and brought to the Hellenic Center or Philoptochos will purchase the food for you and present you with receipts for reimbursement. **Specialty foods or additional items beyond the basics must be provided by the family if you wish to have them served.**

Coffee/Tea Paper: A flat fee for coffee, tea, and paper goods is charged. If there are multiple memorial coffee hours the cost is to be shared equally by the sponsors.

- \$35.00 (one sponsor)
- \$25.00 (per family if two sponsors)
- \$25.00 (per family if three sponsors)

Services: The Ladies of the Philoptochos Society will do grocery shopping for basic items, set up, serving and clean up for the coffee hours. In addition, a sign is prepared with the name of the sponsorship family and the person in whose memory the coffee hour is being held.

The Ladies Philoptochos Society is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to provide aid to the poor, the homeless, the sick and the disadvantaged. Your generosity in making a donation to the St. George Ladies Philoptochos Society in memory of your loved one would be greatly appreciated. For tax purposes, a letter acknowledging your donation will be provided.

KOLIVA

The Ladies Philoptochos Society will no longer be responsible for making koliva for memorial services. In recent years there are significantly fewer and fewer members who are able or available to make koliva. Therefore, this is a service we can no longer offer to our parishioners and families will be responsible for providing their own koliva.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS – JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 2017

Ευτυχισμένος ο Καινούριος Χρόνος!

The Fellowship group extends our very best wishes to one and all for peace, joy, good health and an abundance of blessings in 2017. We are currently well into the month of January, and February is just around the corner. Have you noticed that the days are getting longer? It's happening in tiny increments, but it is happening!

December was a very exciting month for our St. George community. Not only did we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but we also welcomed our new permanent parish priest, Father Demetrios Sean Govostes. Father Sean, Presvytera Pamela, and their nine year old son Savvas have made their home in Niskayuna. We are so happy to have them here and we encourage all parishioners to introduce yourselves to them, if you haven't done so already.

We also want to thank Father Peter Daratsos for having done such a wonderful job as our interim parish priest prior to Father Sean's arrival. We wish Father Peter and Presvytera Nina all the best as they now have the freedom to visit their new grandchildren. Happy travels to you both!

On December 8th, the Fellowship group met for a Christmas gathering at the Farmer Boy Diner. We were warmly welcomed by owner Christopher Euripidou, and manager Cynthia Deligiannis. A good time was had by all as we enjoyed our delicious meals and played several fun Christmas games. Having newly arrived in our community just a few days beforehand, we were so happy that Father Sean and Presvytera Pamela were able to join us, thus giving us an opportunity to start getting to know one another.

This month's meeting took place on January 12th at the Hellenic Center. Our chefs for the day, Charlie Koines, Pete Kalil and Steve Giakoumis, prepared a delicious lunch of baked chicken accompanied by rice pilaf, green beans, a tossed Greek salad, and hot crusty bread. Dessert consisted of baklava, orange yogurt bites, and scrumptious coconut mini cakes baked by Kiki Jones. Father Sean gave the blessing prior to lunch.

Decisions made during the meeting were to donate \$150 each to both Philoptochos and to the church, for our use of the Center and the supplies we use (coffee, paper goods, etc.). We also voted to forgo our planned February lunch visit to the new Rivers Casino because of concerns that, having been newly opened, it would be extremely overcrowded. It was decided that we will postpone that visit for March, and have our February meeting at the Center instead. We also discussed a possible monastery trip. Father Sean will look into monasteries within driving distance which are approved by the archdiocese, as many are not.

Next month's meeting at the Hellenic Center will take place on February 9th, beginning with lunch at 11:30 AM, menu to be announced.

As always, we continuously encourage newcomers to join our Fellowship group. Unless there is a special occasion when we travel or meet at a restaurant, our meetings take place at the Hellenic Center on the second Thursday of every month at 11:30 AM. We always begin our meetings with a meal. A nominal fee of \$3.00 for members and \$5.00 for non-members is charged to cover the cost of the food. Dues are \$25 annually. Please contact our treasurer, Kathy Koines, or either of our co-presidents, Paul Pagiotas or Eliana Georgelos, for more information.



**THE SONS OF PERICLES
AND MAIDS OF ATHENA
PRESENT THE 39TH ANNUAL**

**A V
L D ANCE
B A
'17 Y**

FEBRUARY 11

6:30 PM-1:00 AM

ST SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

\$40 ADULT PRE-SALE | \$50 ADULT DOOR

\$25 YOUTH 11-17 | UNDER 10 FREE

**FOOD PROVIDED BY
ANGELO BOUSBOURAS**



**MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
PROVIDED BY**

**PROMETHEUS
GREEK ENTERTAINMENT**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
ALEX ATHANASSIADIS (518) 641-2811
MARIA KOUTSAKIS (518) 368-3212**



January 14, 2017

Dear Parish Council and Parishioners of St. George Greek Orthodox Church,

We are proud to announce that twenty men from Schenectady, Troy, and Albany reactivated the Schenectady Chapter #125 of the National Order of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association on Saturday January 14, 2017. The local chapter was one of the oldest in the country and we hope that we can continue to honor the work of those who began it in the 1920s. AHEPA has served as a vital vehicle for the progressive development and emergence of American citizens of Greek heritage into every facet of society: government, business, education, and the arts. This fulfillment illustrates the promise of the American Dream and symbolizes the hard work ethic of our immigrant for-bearers who labored to achieve that dream with the principles of Hellenism rooted deep in their hearts. The AHEPA Mission statement is as follows:

To promote the ancient Hellenic ideals of education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, integrity, and family and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism.

It is our intent to conduct philanthropic activities in support of St. George Greek Orthodox Church of Schenectady, the broader Greek-American community in the Tri-cities, and for other charitable functions to benefit people in need in the Tri-Cities. We are excited about the prospects for the future and hope to promote Hellenism and foster a greater sense of community through our efforts in the coming years. The organization is open to all men over twenty-seven years of age and we have some big plans on the horizon for the group. If you have an interest in joining Schenectady Chapter #125, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of the officers for more information or an application.

From the Executive Committee of Schenectady AHEPA Chapter #125,

President: Philip Menagias, 518-857-2669, p_menagias@hotmail.com

Vice President: Christopher Euripidou

Treasurer: Charles Koines

Secretary: Gregory Sokaris

AHEPA District 6 Governor Ted Stamas

AHEPA District 6 Secretary Chris Pappis

AHEPA District 6 Past District Governor Tom Dushas

AHEPA District 6 Lt. Governor Demi Pamboukes

AHEPA District 6 Treasurer Ted Malgarinos

Albany AHEPA 140 Chapter President George Pappis

AHEPA Delphi 25 Captain of the Guard Peter Giakoumis

Troy AHEPA 306 Chapter President Tom Suraci



***Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
welcomes the newly reactivated
AHEPA Chapter # 125.***

House Blessings have begun ~

Please contact Camille in the parish office 393-0742, to schedule your house blessing with Father Sean. Or simply cut and return the bottom portion of this page to the parish office, or drop into the collection basket on Sunday.



House Blessing Request Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

If you would like this special blessing for your family, home or business, **PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR CALL 393-0742 THE CHURCH OFFICE to schedule a day and time.**

HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR!



Community News & Events

Mr. Dean Thomas Plakas, beloved son of Tommy, and brother of Vivian, Gus, George, Denny, Peter, Johnny and Jimmy, fell asleep in the Lord on December 7th at the age of 36. The funeral was celebrated on December 12th. *May his memory be eternal!*

Mrs. Ann Mantas, beloved wife of James, and mother of Alexandra, John and Pamela, fell asleep in the Lord on December 4th at the age of 79. The funeral was celebrated on December 9th. *May her memory be eternal!*

Mr. James Mantas, beloved husband of Ann, and father of Alexandra, John and Pamela, fell asleep in the Lord on December 11th at the age of 81. The funeral was celebrated on December 16th. *May his memory be eternal!*

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Janetos Laganis, fell asleep in the Lord on January 12th at the age of 92. The funeral was celebrated on January 19th. *May her memory be eternal!*

Charles and Kathleen Koines sponsored the **Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, January 24th** in loving memory of *James and Helen Koines. May their memories be eternal!*

Beginning February 1st, The Ladies Philoptochos Society will begin **collecting non-perishable food items** to help fill the shelves at the food pantry. Items will be delivered monthly to the Salvation Army when the Soup Kitchen team prepares and serves the meal. A collection box has been placed in the Hellenic Center. Please see the Philoptochos bulletin within to learn more.

Sunday, February 5th, 2017 is **"GO RED SUNDAY"**. All parishioners are asked to wear red on this day in recognition of the American Heart Association's national campaign to increase awareness and help prevent heart disease.

The **Fellowship Group will meet Thursday, February 9th at 11:30 am**, at the Hellenic Center. Please see Eliana Georgelos or Paul Pagiotas for more information.

The Albany AHEPA/Sons and Maids will hold their **39th Annual Valentines Day Dance** at St. Sophia on Saturday, **February 11th, from 6:30 pm to 1 am**. Prometheus Band will perform. \$40.00 Adult pre-sale, \$50.00 Adult at door; \$25.00 Youth 11-17, under age 10 free! Please see the bulletin board in the Hellenic Center Hallway for more information. All are invited to attend!

The Ladies Philoptochos Society will hold its **annual Spaghetti luncheon on Sunday, February 12th** following Divine Liturgy. See flyer on back cover page for details.

The **Ladies Philoptochos Society** will hold its next business meeting on **Thursday, February 16th at 6:30 pm**.

On **Sunday, February 26th**, beginning at 5 pm, St. George will host the annual **Pan-Orthodox Vespers and Lenten Supper**. Please join us!

Michael & Elaine Euripidou will sponsor the **Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, February 28, 2017** in memory of their beloved mothers, Fotine Euripidou and Irene Loukas. *May their memories be eternal!*

St. George Stewardship Committee kindly requests that all **2017 stewardship pledge forms** be submitted to the parish office by the **beginning of Great and Holy Lent ~ Monday, February 27th**. Thank you.

Thank you to Steve and Peter Giakoumis for the donation of a commercial grade slicer for the HC kitchen.

Church Usher Schedule:

Team B: 2/05

Team C: 2/12

Team D: 2/19

Team A: 2/26



Team A: Charlie Koines (Captain), Norina McGowen, Phil McGowen, Bill Manikas, Pete Kalil.

Team B: Alexandra Casey (Captain), Lainie Christou, Brian Goodale, Dimitrios Koutsopoulos, Scott Morlock.

Team C: Lucy Brady (Captain), Athena Pagnotti, Panagiota Giakoumis, Frank Rossetti, Van Stathis.

Team D: Gladys Paravalos (Captain), Steve Giakoumis, Steve Markopoulos, Antonia Kananis, Morgan Gazetos.



Spaghetti and Meatballs

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Immediately Following Divine Liturgy

Hellenic Center, 510 Liberty Street, Schenectady



Donation: \$8.00 Adults and \$5.00 Children (under 12)

Spaghetti ~ Meatballs ~ Salad ~ Roll & Butter

Soda ~ Wine ~ Coffee ~ Dessert

Sponsored by Ladies Philoptochos Society
(For the Benefit of Philoptochos Charities)

For Tickets and Information (Dinner Co-Chairs)

Paula Kingra, Aleka Menagias, Gladys Paravalos, Soula Tsakopiakos,

**The cut-off date is February 15th
for news & events submissions for our March 2017 issue.**

Please make efforts to plan accordingly for the next issue of our bulletin. Submit all entries in person to Fr. Sean Govostes, or via email to Fr.Govostes@gmail.com.