

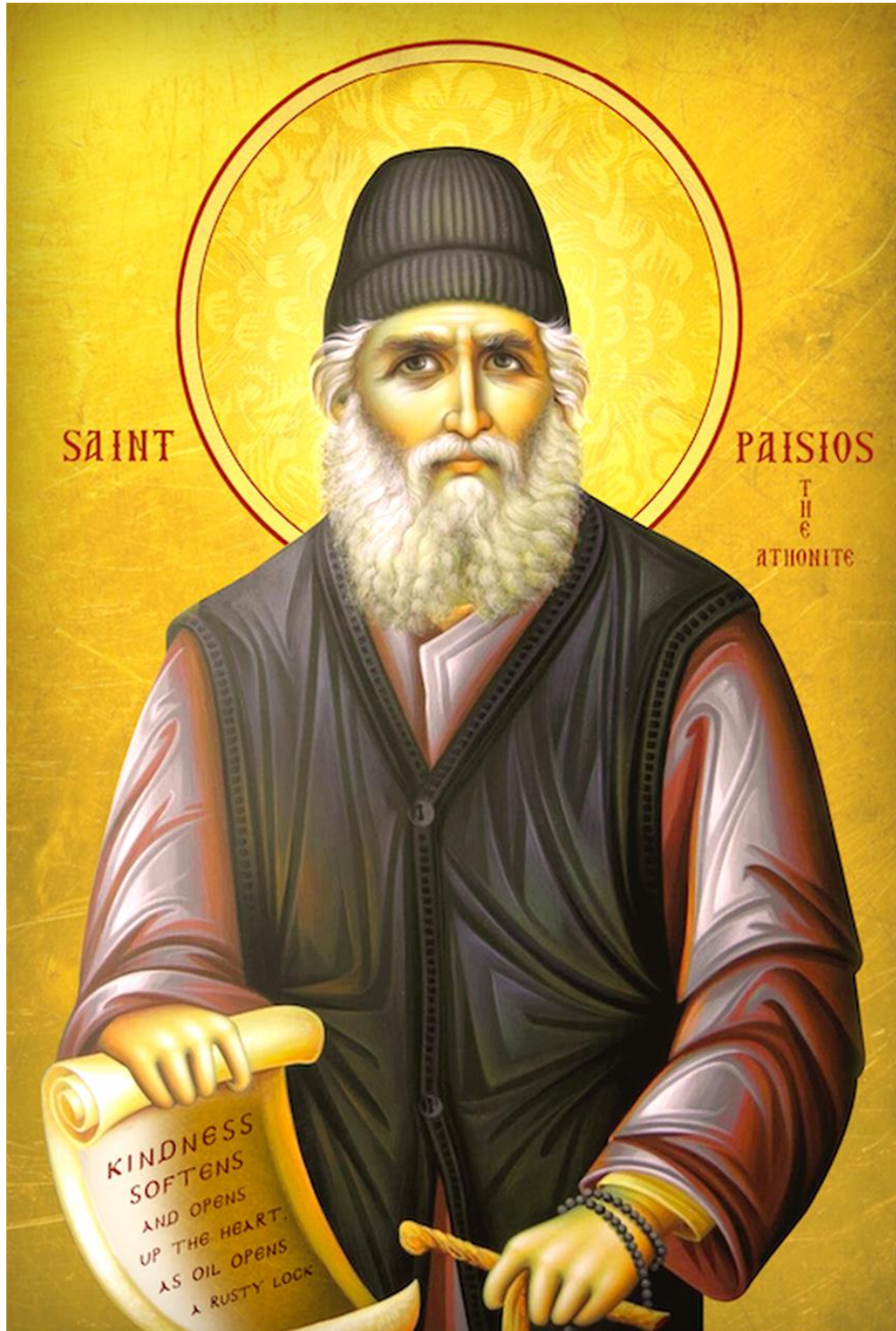


THE TRIUMPHANT

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church
Father Neofitos Sarigiannis
frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com
www.saintgeorgegoc.com

5th Sunday of Matthew

July 12, 2020





Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

July Update from the Parish Council

Greetings from the Parish Council! We hope you and your family members are doing well and staying healthy. Glory to God!

We want to express our sincerest gratitude to everyone who has submitted a stewardship pledge this year and for continuing to submit your payments. The bills continue to come in, and with our significantly reduced ability to conduct fund raising events, 2020 will strain St. George financially. Thank you for your most generous and continued support.

Over the last few months, the Parish Council has been working very closely with Father Neofitos and the Church staff to keep our facilities clean and to manage the reopening for services. Obviously this has been very challenging as we must follow close regulations laid out by New York State and the Archdiocese. We want to thank everyone for your patience, cooperation, and willingness to abide by the new protocols we've put in place for when you are in the Church and Hellenic Center. Everything is done with your safety in mind.

We also want to thank those of you who have been ushering. Your work is very important, and we are blessed to receive your donation of time and love for St. George and the safety of its parishioners. We are in need of new ushers to join the team as well. Whether you have served before or it's your first time, please reach out to Brian Goodale (Brian.Goodale@outlook.com) today to express your interest and to sign up for a shift or two.

Church Electrical Project

The electrical infrastructure of the Church is old and in dire need of upgrading ... not only for safety but also improved efficiency and cost savings. The Parish Council has identified this project as our top priority at this time. Based on the electrical audit and upgrades done on the Hellenic Center last year, we anticipate the cost to do the same work in the Church to be around \$20,000 or more. We will be announcing soon the details of a new capital campaign to raise funds for the much needed electrical upgrades in the Church. Stay tuned!

Facility Updates

In June, two major projects were successfully completed. First, the new Hellenic Center roof installation was finished at long last. And second, all the pot holes in the parking lot and driveway were repaired, and the entire lot was resealed and the lines were repainted. It looks great. In the weeks ahead, the shed will be repaired and repainted, along with other exterior painting and improvements to the Hellenic Center and surrounding grounds. In the near future we will look at replacing the ceiling tiles inside the Center.

2020 Festival and Fall Fundraising Activities

The Parish Council and the Festival Planning team together decided that we are not able to hold our annual Festival this year. Obviously we rely heavily on the profits generated by this wonderful event and replacing that income will be challenging. We hope to hold a number of smaller fundraising events this fall starting on the usual Festival weekend in September (11-12).

On Sunday, July 19th after Church, we are holding a very important meeting in the Hellenic Center to finalize and implement plans for these fall events. We will practice social distancing and mask wearing at this meeting. If you have been a leader of any aspect of the past Festivals, we need you at this meeting as decisions will be made. All parishioners are encouraged to attend to bring your ideas, time and talents to help out. The immediate future of St. George is depending on the work we do now.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. We look forward to seeing you on Sundays!

*****IMPORTANT***
Planning Meeting for Fall 2020
Fundraising Events**

**Sunday, July 19th – after Church
in the Hellenic Center
Masks Required**



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

From the desk of Fr. Neofitos

ENCYCLICAL OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS OF AMERICA

The Fourth of July, 2020

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As your Archbishop of America, it is truly a joy to celebrate with you the Fourth of July, the day when all Americans and indeed the whole world commemorate our Independence Day. Even though this Declaration was made on July 4, 1776 in Philadelphia, the fight for liberty commenced much earlier, on April 19, 1775, in Lexington and Concord, where at the Old North Bridge, as the poet Ralph Waldo Emerson later sang:

By the rude bridge that arched the flood, Their flag to April's breeze unfurled, Here once the embattled farmers stood And fired the shot heard round the world.

Our legacy of that victory, and of the sacrifice of every generation of Americans who, in President Abraham Lincoln's immortal words at Gettysburg, "gave the last full measure of devotion," is not to take bridges, but to build bridges.

We have to be honest about the divisions in our Nation and how polarized our society feels, especially in the continuing aftermath of the pandemic and the social unrest over basic inequities in our land. Building bridges of dialogue, of mutual respect, of seeking shared understanding – these are the best of America and honor the heroes who have kept America "the land of the free and home of the brave." The strength of America is our diversity, our plurality, for "E Pluribus Unum" – out of many, we are one!

My beloved Christians, as we celebrate the greatness of our Nation on the Fourth of July, let us remember how we attained the exceptional freedoms we all enjoy, and work to ensure these freedoms are true for every American. Let us engage one another with vigor and commitment, "speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15) on every vital issue, even as we hold in dear remembrance those who made the ultimate sacrifice for God and country.

With paternal love in our Lord Jesus Christ,

†ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

As I await the birth of my child in August, I have been pondering on the current state of our world. The society of humanity. I ask myself, as one of my favorite songs from my youth says, "Where is the Love?"

The above is a very concise message by our hierarch and arch pastor, Archbishop Elpidophoros.

I am old enough to remember a time when people disagreed with each other yet, loved each other. People supported their leaders, even if they did not agree with every word they said or action they took. A time when family and friends had strong and opposite views but remained loving.

St. Paul reminds us of such gifts and virtues today. In today's epistle we read that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control".

We must ACT. Let us practice these heavenly traits and allow the love of God to enter our hearts. Only then can we cultivate these virtues in us. Let us set aside any hate, judgements, and lack of compassion for our fellow human. These feelings are all a personal choice and it is our responsibility to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness". Not our own righteousness, which is filled with ego and delusion many times. HIS righteousness.

In last Sunday's gospel, a centurion (a Pagan, Roman Soldier of an oppressive state) showed more faith than all the people of God. This even made an impression on our Lord. Let us learn from His example and practice the fruits of the Spirit so that we can attain true unity and love with God and all His people. It is with love we can persevere through these difficult times. Together, in prayer and worship and in practice (δσκησις) can we find the love.

"He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him". John chapter 4

Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis

WHERE IS



THE LOVE?



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode 4

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

For the Devout Man

Τῆς ἐνθέου ἀγάπης τὸ πῦρ δεξάμενος, * ὑπερβαλλούσῃ ἀσκήσει ἐδόθης ὁλος Θεῷ * καὶ παράκλησις πολλῶν ἀνθρώπων γέγονας, * λόγους θείοις νουθετῶν, προσευχαῖς θαυματουργῶν, Παῖσιε θεοφόρε· * καὶ νῦν πρεσβεύεις ἀπαύστως ὑπὲρ παντὸς τοῦ κόσμου, Ὅσιε.

Apolytikion of St. George

Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ελευθερωτῆς, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν υπερασπιστῆς, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός, βασιλέων υπέρμαχος, τροπαιοφόρε μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ θῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Κοντάκιον

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδῃς, ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασσον, ὡς ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

For the Devout Man

Once the fire of love for the Lord was lit in you, * through ascetical rigor you gave yourself to God. * O God-bearing St. Paisios, for many you became * consolation, giving counsel with God-inspired words, * and by your prayers working wonders. * And now, devout one, you intercede for the whole world unceasingly.

Apolytikion of St. George

Liberator of captives, defender of the Poor, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, O trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Kontakion

O Protection of Christians that never fails, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.

Epistle and Gospel Readings

The Epistle According to Gal. 5:22-26; 6:1-2

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ καρπὸς τοῦ Πνεύματος ἐστὶν ἀγάπη, χαρὰ, εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία, χρηστότης, ἀγαθωσύνη, πίστις, πραότης, ἐγκράτεια· κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων οὐκ ἔστι νόμος. Οἱ δὲ τοῦ Χριστοῦ τὴν σάρκα ἐσταύρωσαν σὺν τοῖς παθήμασι καὶ ταῖς ἐπιθυμίαις. Εἰ ζῶμεν πνεύματι, πνεύματι καὶ στοιχῶμεν. Μὴ γινώμεθα κενόδοξοι, ἀλλήλους προκαλοῦμενοι, ἀλλήλοις φθονοῦντες. Ἀδελφοί, ἐὰν καὶ προληφθῇ ἄνθρωπος ἐν τινι παραπτώματι, ὑμεῖς οἱ πνευματικοὶ καταρτίζετε τὸν τοιοῦτον ἐν πνεύματι πραότητος· σκοπῶν σεαυτὸν, μὴ καὶ σὺ πειρασθῆς. Ἀλλήλων τὰ βάρη βαστάζετε, καὶ οὕτως ἀναπληρώσατε τὸν νόμον τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

The Gospel is according to Mt. 8:5-13

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γεργεσηνῶν ὑπήντησαν αὐτῷ δύο δαιμονιζόμενοι ἐκ τῶν μνημείων ἐξερχόμενοι, χαλεποὶ λίαν, ὥστε μὴ ἰσχύειν τινὰ παρελθεῖν διὰ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐκείνης. καὶ ἰδοὺ ἔκραξαν λέγοντες· Τί ἡμῖν καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ; ἦλθες ὧδε πρὸ καιροῦ βασανίσει ἡμᾶς; ἦν δὲ μακρὰν ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀγέλη χοίρων πολλῶν βοσκομένη. οἱ δὲ δαίμονες παρεκάλουν αὐτὸν λέγοντες· Εἰ ἐκβάλλεις ἡμᾶς, ἐπίτρεψον ἡμῖν ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Ὑπάγετε. οἱ δὲ ἐξελθόντες ἀπῆλθον εἰς τὴν ἀγέλην τῶν χοίρων· καὶ ἰδοὺ ὥρμησεν πᾶσα ἡ ἀγέλη τῶν χοίρων κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν, καὶ ἀπέθανον ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι. οἱ δὲ βόσκοντες ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπελθόντες εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἀπήγγειλαν πάντα καὶ τὰ τῶν δαιμονιζομένων. καὶ ἰδοὺ πᾶσα ἡ πόλις ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν τῷ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν παρεκάλεισαν ὅπως μεταβῆ ἀπὸ τῶν ὁρίων αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐμβὰς εἰς πλοῖον διεπέρασεν καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν πόλιν.

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

[St. Paisios of Mount Athos - orthodoxwiki.org](http://St.Paisios of Mount Athos - orthodoxwiki.org) (icon front cover)

Our venerable and God-bearing Father Paisios of Mount Athos or Paisios the New, of the Holy Mountain (July 25, 1924 – July 12, 1994), also known as Elder Paisios (Greek: Γέροντας Παΐσιος ὁ Ἀγιορείτης), was a monastic of Mount Athos. An ascetic, he was known by his visitors for his gentle manner and acceptance of those who came to receive his advice, counsel, and blessing. His words of counsel continue to be published. [1] Elder Paisios was canonized on January 13, 2015, by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.[1][2] The Church commemorates St. Paisios on July 12.

Arsenius Eznepidis was born on July 25, 1924, to pious parents in the town of Farasa, Cappadocia of Asia Minor, shortly before the population exchange between Greece and Turkey following the Greco-Turkish War of 1919-1922. Arsenios' name was given to him by St. Arsenios the Cappadocian, who baptized him, named the child for himself and foretold Arsenios' monastic future. Very shortly after his baptism the young Arsenios and his family were forced to leave Asia Minor in accordance the peace Treaty of Lausanne. St. Arsenios guided his flock along a 400-mile trek to Greece. The Eznepidis family finally settled in the town of Konitsa in Epirus in northwestern Greece. As he had prophesied, St. Arsenios reposed forty days after the group settled in Greece, leaving, as his spiritual heir, the infant Arsenios. Arsenios grew up in Konitsa and learned carpentry after completing intermediate public school.

During the civil war in Greece following World War II, Arsenios served as a radio operator. While concerned about his compatriots who had family, he didn't worry for himself because he was single and had no children. He was noted for his bravery, self-sacrifice and moral righteousness. After the civil war ended, he wanted to enter a monastic life, but had to consider his sisters, who were as yet unmarried. By 1950, he had provided for his sisters' future and was free to begin his monastic vocation

He arrived on Mount Athos in 1950, first to Fr. Kyril, the future abbot of Koutloumousiou Monastery, and then to Esphigmenou Monastery. In 1954, Arsenios, having been a novice for four years, was tonsured a monk and was given the name Averkios. He was a conscientious monk, finding ways to both complete his obediences (which required contact with others) and to preserve his silence, so as to progress in the art of prayer. He was always selfless in helping his brethren. He was unwilling to rest while others worked (though he may have already completed his own obediences) as he loved his brothers greatly and without distinction. In addition to his ascetic struggles and the common life in the monastery, he was spiritually enriched through the reading of soul-profitable books. In particular, he read the lives of the Saints, the Gerontikon, and especially the Ascetical Homilies of St. Isaac the Syrian.[2]s.

Soon after his tonsure, monk Averkios left Esphigmenou and joined the then idiorhythmic brotherhood of Philotheou Monastery, where his uncle was a monk. He placed himself under obedience to the Elder Symeon, who gave him the Small Schema in 1956, with the new name Paisios. Fr. Paisios dwelt deeply on the thought that his own spiritual failures and lack of love were the cause of his neighbor's shortcomings, as well as of the world's ills. He harshly accused himself and pushed



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himself to greater self-denial and more fervent prayer for his soul and for the whole world. He also cultivated the habit of seeking the "good reason" for a potentially scandalous event and for people's actions. In this way he preserved himself from judging others. For example, pilgrims to Mt. Athos who had been scandalized by the strange behavior and stories told by a certain monk would when they met Elder Paisios, asked him what was wrong with the monk. He warned them not to judge others, and that this monk was actually virtuous and was simply pretending to be a fool when visitors would come, so as to preserve his silence.

In 1958, Elder Paisios was asked to spend some time in and around his home village so as to support the faithful against the proselytism of Protestant groups. He greatly encouraged the faithful there, helping many people. Later, in 1962, he visited Sinai where he stayed for two years. During this time he became beloved of the Bedouins who benefited both spiritually as well as materially from his presence. The Elder used the money he received from the sale of his carved wooden handicraft to buy them food.

In 1964, on his return to Mt. Athos, Elder Paisios took up residence at the Skete of Iviron before moving to Katounakia at the southernmost tip of Mt. Athos for a short stay in the desert there. The Elder's failing health may have been part of the reason for his departure from the desert. In 1966, a part of his lungs was removed during an operation. It was during this time of hospitalization that his long friendship began with the young sisterhood of St. John the Theologian in Souroti, just outside of Thessaloniki. During his operation he greatly needed blood and it was then that a group of novices from the monastery donated blood to save him. Elder Paisios was most grateful, and after his recovery, he did whatever he could, materially and spiritually, to help them build their monastery.

In 1968, he resided at the Monastery of Stavronikita helping with its spiritual as well as material renovation. While there he had the blessing of being in contact with the ascetic Elder Tikhon who lived in the Hermitage of the Holy Cross, near Stavronikita. Elder Paisios stayed by his side until his repose, serving him selflessly as his disciple. It was during this period that Elder Tikhon clothed Fr. Paisios in the Great Schema. According to the wishes of the Elder, Fr. Paisios remained in Elder Tikhon's hermitage after his repose. Fr. Paisios stayed there until 1979, when he moved to his final home on the Holy Mountain, the hermitage Panagouda, which belongs to the Monastery of Koutloumousiou. [3]

It was at Panagouda that Elder Paisios' fame as a God bearing elder grew, drawing to him the sick and suffering people of God. He received them all day long, dedicating the night to God in prayer, vigil, and spiritual struggle. His regime of prayer and asceticism left him with only two or three hours each night for rest. The self-abandon with which he served God and his fellow man, his strictness with himself, the austerity of his regime, and his sensitive nature made him increasingly prone to sickness. In addition to respiratory problems, in his later days he suffered from a serious hernia that made life very painful. When he was forced to leave the Holy Mountain for various reasons (often due to his illnesses) he would receive pilgrims for hours on end at the women's monastery at Souroti. The physical effort which this entailed in his weakened state caused him such pain that he would turn pale. He bore his suffering with much grace, confident that, as God knows what is best for us, it could not be otherwise. He would say that God is greatly touched when someone who is in great suffering does not complain, but rather uses his energy to pray for others.

In addition to his other illnesses he suffered from hemorrhaging which left him very weak. In his final weeks before leaving the Holy Mountain, he would often fall unconscious. On October 5, 1993, the Elder left his beloved Holy Mountain for the last time. Though he had planned on being off the mountain for just a few days, while in Thessaloniki he was diagnosed with cancer that needed immediate treatment. After the operation he spent some time recovering in the hospital and was then transferred to the monastery at Souroti. Despite his critical state he received people, listening to their sorrows and counseling them.

After his operation, Elder Paisios had his heart set on returning to Mt. Athos. His attempts to do so, however, were hindered by his failing health. His last days were full of suffering, but also of the joy of the martyrs. On July 11, 1994, he received Holy Communion for the last time. The next day, Elder Paisios gave his soul into God's keeping. He was buried, according to his wishes, at the Monastery of St. John the Theologian in Souroti. Elder Paisios, perhaps more than any other contemporary elder, captured the minds and hearts of the Greek people. Many books of his counsels have been published, and the monastery at Souroti has undertaken a great work, organizing the Elder's writings and counsels into impressive volumes befitting his memory. Thousands of pilgrims visit his tomb each year.

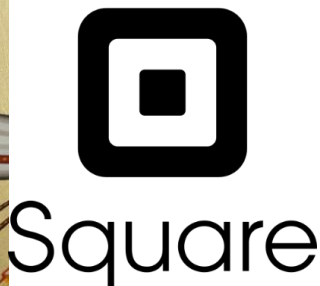
Elder Paisios was glorified on January 13, 2015, by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. He is commemorated each year on July 12.



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Liturgical Offerings: Koliva, Artoklasia, and other offerings

Orders can be placed on our St. George Square site. Click the icon to visit:



<https://st-george-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/>

Dear Friends,

The Church of Saint George has several ecclesiastical needs for the upkeep of the liturgical practices of the year. You may make and bring these offerings on your own or order them through our office. Please contact our office if you wish to donate towards any of these items for the week or if you have any questions. All proceeds for offerings go to the church. A corresponding write up will be offered in the bulletin if the donor wishes.

Divine Liturgy - for the Health of the Living and the Repose of the Departed

During the Divine Liturgy the names of our loved ones are commemorated for their health and salvation and for the repose of the departed. Names for the living and the departed can be submitted to be commemorated during the Proskomidi at any time. In addition to names, you may also offer the Prosforo, Communion Wine and Altar Candles as a prayer for your loved ones. These are vital ingredients for every service during the liturgical year. You can bring these items yourself or we can provide them for you.

- **Communion Wine** - \$20 Donation
- **Altar Candles** for a week (ακοίμητων) - \$20 Donation
- **Prosforo** - \$20 Donation
- **Altar Incense** – Μοσχοθυμίαμα \$20.00 - \$50.00 Donation

Koliva - Memorial for the Departed

Koliva is offered in memory of our loved ones as a prayer for the repose and salvation of their souls on the following days:

- 40 Day Memorial
- 1 Year Memorial
- Annual Memorial
- Soul Saturday's - for all our family members and friends who have departed.

The Church has established 3 Soul Saturdays at the beginning of the Triodion and 1 on the Saturday before Pentecost

We can make Koliva for you if you place an order with the office. **A large tray is \$100.**

Artoklasia - Prayers for the Health of the Living

Artoklasia (the breaking of the five loaves) is a festive celebration of a Saint's Feast Day and is offered for the health and salvation of the living on the following days:

- On the name day of an individual
- In honor of a saint that we especially revere
- On the feast day of our church

We can make Artoklasia for you if you place an order with the office. **The cost will be \$50.**





Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Upcoming Service Schedule

Summer hours
Orthros 8:30 am
Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
We look forward to seeing everyone in church!

July

Sunday, July 12 - 5th Sunday of Matthew

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Athanasios Stamoulis 6 month memorial
Chris P. Dafniotis 40 day memorial

Sunday, July 19 – Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Monday, July 20 – Prophet Elias

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, July 21

*6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, July 25 - Dormition of St. Anna, mother of the Theotokos

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, July 26 – 7th Sunday of Matthew

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, August 2

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Monday, August 3

*6:00 pm Small Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 4

*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Wednesday, August 5

*6:00 pm Vespers for Transfiguration of Christ

Thursday, August 6 - Transfiguration of Christ

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy and blessing of the grapes
*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

August

Sunday, August 9

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Monday, August 10

*6:00 pm Small Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 11

*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Wednesday, August 12

*6:00 pm Small Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 13

*6:00 pm Great Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary

Friday, August 14

*7:00 pm Vespers at the Assumption Church in Windham, NY

Saturday, August 15 - The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, August 16

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, August 18

*6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, August 23

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, August 30

*8:30 am Orthros & 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

[To watch our services online click here.](#)



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Today in Church

**We Commemorate the 40 day memorial for Chris P. Dafniotis.
We Commemorate the 6 month memorial for Athanasios Stamoulis.
May their memory be eternal.**

The Altar Vigil Lamp is offered by Vasilios Tzoumas for the health and wellbeing of his family.

The Altar Vigil Lamp is offered by Andreas Christou.

An anonymous offering of incense was made.



Philoptochos News

from Olga Delorey

It has been a year unlike any other. A year ago, we had no priest and no church services. Remarkably, our church doors were open every single Sunday thanks to the determination and dedication of Gladys Paravalos and those who assisted her with the Orthros and Fellowship Coffee Hours. Not once were our doors closed. We entered the church to pray, light our candles, and felt the "peace in the silence". We prayed to God to watch over and protect our beloved church and its people. In October, our prayers were answered when we received word that a new priest would be sent to us. On November 9th, we witnessed the inspirational Holy Ordination of Father Neofitos Sarigiannis and welcomed him and Presvytera Catherine into our St. George family. Our patience and prayers were, and continue to be, rewarded many times over. The church was full once again, services were abundant, activities in the Hellenic Center were thriving, visitors were welcomed from near and far ... and then it all stopped. Never in my life did I imagine we would be struck with a pandemic such as we have now. Suddenly, we had to learn how to be "together apart" and "socially distant". We tried to make sense of it all. Church services were watched from afar on an electronic device. Despite our inability to be physically present, we offered thanks to God for this new "virtual" form of worship. We were blessed to have Father and Presvytera continue with the entire calendar of services throughout Lent, Holy Week and beyond until now when at last we can attend church and receive Holy Communion.

Since last September, our Philoptochos has continued to fulfill its charitable mission despite the challenges we now face. In recent months, however, one of our most important ministries – **Soup Kitchen** – has ceased for the foreseeable future. Organizations such as the Salvation Army and City Mission of Schenectady have had to alter how they provide services and at this time they are not allowing volunteer groups into their facilities. I don't know when, or even if, this ministry will resume; and it may take a very different form. The overriding priority is to keep everyone safe. Our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported this ministry over the years - both financially and by working on the Soup Kitchen Team preparing and serving the monthly meals. Our participation in Soup Kitchen began more than 30 years ago. As time went on and the need became greater, we served an average of 150 people each month. Each person received a complete hot dinner – Greek style! As people departed we heard many times over "thank you and God bless you". For the past 15 years, the success of this ministry would not have been possible without the leadership of our beloved **Kathy and Charlie Koines**. Sadly, we lost our dear sister on September 1, 2019 after a courageous battle with cancer. Kathy was a faithful and dedicated member of our Philoptochos and St. George Church. May her memory be eternal. Charlie will soon relocate to Cape Cod where he will be near the family of his early years. Charlie, you will always be part of "our" family, and we wish you and your family good health, peace and comfort. We are forever indebted to all you did in the name of Philoptochos.

On September 21, 2019 the three Philoptochos Chapters from St. George, St. Sophia and St. Basil organized and sponsored "**TRAPPED: In Our Own Backyard: A Symposium on Human Trafficking & A Story of Survival**". There were six panelists – professionals representing social service and law enforcement agencies – all who work in the field of human trafficking. The final presenter was a brave young woman – herself a survivor who endured unimaginable abuse which began when she was a child. Elaine Houston, Anchor of NewsChannel 13, served as moderator. It was a powerful symposium. Our goal was to raise awareness of this egregious human rights violation which occurs not only in large metropolitan cities but right here in our own capital district community. National Philoptochos includes human trafficking as one of its major philanthropic initiatives.



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Between September 2019 – June 2020, the St. George Philoptochos has provided financial support to the following. We could not do this without you! A big **THANK YOU** to everyone in the St. George community for your generosity in providing your time, talent, and treasure to Philoptochos so we can help those in need. Our name means “friend of the poor” – indeed we are.

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

National Philoptochos & Direct Archdiocesan District

Retired Clergy & Widowed Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
Hellenic College/Holy Cross Scholarship Fund
National Philoptochos Emergency Fund
St. Michael’s Home for the Aged (DAD)
National Sisterhood of Presbyteres Benevolent Fund
Programs & Charities of the Ecumenical Patriarchate
UNICEF
National Philoptochos General Medical Fund
Saint Basil Academy
National Philoptochos Social Services Fund
National Philoptochos Cancer Fund
DAD Special Appeal
National Philoptochos Autism Fund
St. Photios Shrine
Orthodox Christian Mission Center
Support-A-Mission Priest
Hellenic College/Holy Cross Lenten Gift
Hellenic Cultural Center (DAD)
International Orthodox Christian Charities
Sisterhood of Saint Basil
Per Capita Membership Dues (National & DAD)
Hellenic College/Holy Cross Scholarship (DAD)
National Philoptochos COVID-19 Emergency Appeal

Community & Other

St. George Greek Orthodox Church
City Mission of Schenectady – Toiletry Kits for Students in Need
Salvation Army Soup Kitchen
Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
American Cancer Society-Making Strides
Concerned for the Hungry, Inc.
Schenectady County Social Services – Families in Need
Operation Adopt-A-Soldier Care Packages
Price Chopper Food Cards for Local Veterans
National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians
Salvation Army – Adopt a Family for Christmas
WGY Christmas Wish
Things of My Very Own
YWCA Battered Women’s Shelter
Eyes Wide Open NENY
Evangeline Booth Miracle Home
Center for Disability Services
Jack’s Place
Bethesda House
Quest for Grace
Safe Inc. of Schenectady
Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry
Family Promise of the Capital Region
Multiple Sclerosis Society
Northeast Parent & Child Society
Five P Minus Society
Ronald McDonald House of Albany
Schenectady Inner City Ministries – Children’s Summer Lunch Program

Fellowship News

By Eliana Georgelos Co-president, Fellowship group

July is now upon us and summer has finally arrived! But because of the COVID 19 virus, this year is unlike any other year. Our annual Independence Day celebrations on July 4th which traditionally have included parades, concerts, and fireworks, have largely been cancelled. However, we can still celebrate in our hearts and pray for those who fought for our freedom, so that Independence Day can continue to unite us.

Unfortunately, most of our usual summer activities cannot take place as before, Graduation ceremonies have either been cancelled or cut back severely in scope. The same is true for weddings and other social gatherings such as birthdays, anniversary parties, and family reunions. Vacations to beaches or areas where flying would be necessary, have often needed



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

to be cancelled. Although Europe has recently been opened to travelers from many countries, Americans are currently banned from entering because of COVID concerns. Therefore, non-essential travel to Greece or other EU countries is not possible at this time.

Slowly, however, things are opening up in this area of New York State so that we can once again visit our barbers and hairdressers for haircuts, go out to dinner at many of our favorite restaurants, and most importantly attend church to worship and to partake of Holy Communion. Social distancing and the wearing of masks must still be followed and temperatures must be taken before entering any of these establishments. We pray that as we become more relaxed and open, we do not see a second wave of the virus. May God protect us.

When we were quarantined, technology gave us the opportunity to virtually attend church through live streaming. It was so easy to turn on our computers on a Sunday morning and watch the liturgy from the comfort of our homes. There was little sacrifice involved. Now that we are finally able to attend church in person, we need to prepare ourselves to get there, both physically and spiritually. In church, we are able to enjoy a closeness to God as well as to one another, even though we cannot embrace our friends as before. Making the effort to attend church in person is a way of showing our love for God as we worship in His house.

Although inactive because of COVID restrictions, the Fellowship group looks forward to the time when we can all meet together again. We are all well and continue to communicate with one another regularly. We are saddened, however that our very good friend and active Fellowship member, Charlie Koines, has moved away and relocated to Cape Cod. Charlie was a fixture here at St. George, having been actively involved for years in just about every aspect of our church. He is loved by all of us. Although we will miss him tremendously, we understand his need to return to Massachusetts to be close to his family and to be near his beloved Kathy who has been laid to rest there. We wish Charlie Godspeed and much happiness in his new home.

The Fellowship group extends our heartfelt congratulations to Montana Cappola who graduated from Mohonasen High School and will be attending SUNY at Oneonta in the fall. Montana has been an active member of St. George since childhood. She danced with our Greek Dance group at Festivals and attends liturgy as often as possible on Sundays. She loves our church with all her heart. Montana's family has a long history at St. George. Her grandparents, Peter and Dayna Kalil, are beloved members of our Fellowship group. Her great grandfather, Jim Doulides, was the caterer of the Hellenic Center for many, many years. And her great-great grandparents, Chris and Merope Doulides were married in our church almost 100 years ago. Chris started the Christy's Foods business in Schenectady and operated it for over 30 years. A wonderful Greek presence in our community! Because of her contribution to and love for St. George, Montana was selected by the parish council to be the recipient of the \$100 Greg Georgelos award. May God bless you always, Montana!

Again, we thank Father Neofitos and Presvytera Catherine for all their hard work in keeping our church alive and thriving. They are a perfect team and have lovingly provided us with beautiful services, our fantastic Bible Study/book club, the Children's ministry, the informative bulletins Father writes for us, Presvytera's glorious chanting, and the wonderful book store she has put together. We wish them both continued good health, strength and fortitude as they work diligently on our behalf, and God's blessings for the coming birth of their son next month.





Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

AHEPA Schenectady Chapter 125

We would like to congratulate all of the Class of 2020 graduates, from both our Upstate NY Regional High Schools and National Colleges and Universities - Axios!

Along with your Parents and Family, AHEPA Schenectady Chapter 125 are so very proud of your accomplishments.

As such, and as part of our AHEPA Chapter 125 leaders past and continuing discussions to assist St. George's parish and community, we recently voted to award 10 graduates of the Class of 2020, a well-deserved gift of \$200 to assist them with their future endeavors as they continue on with their lives and education.

We hope those we've recognized continue to push the envelope, be good Students and good Citizens as you continue to move forward towards the promise of your future.

A special thank you to Father Neo, his Presbytera, Katerina, and our St. George parish council members for keeping services and communications going on all levels during our National and Global crisis leading up to the reopening of Church services.

Always remember that your AHEPA brotherhood is here if you ever need anything! We have always been a Fraternity of men committed in our service to our community.

Our next goal is preparing for the sponsorship of a Souvlaki booth for fundraising events this fall. We wish everyone a great summer and we hope and pray that we can see everyone this September.

Stewardship

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee. As we have all been living through very challenging times due to COVID-19, one thing that stands out is the ability for the parish of St. George to stay committed and to work together for the good of the Church. We are blessed to have Father Neofitos to lead us and to provide spiritual guidance. We are also blessed to have Presbytera Catherine who amazes us with her beautiful chanting and support of the Church ministries.

We know that times are tough right now for everyone. The Church, however, has needs that have to be addressed despite the current circumstances. Monthly bills need to be paid no matter what. Day to day operations must continue. The Church has lost some revenue that would normally be received from candles, trays, etc. As you know, we will not be hosting a festival this year, and because of this the Church needs our financial support more than ever.

We would like to thank all of you who have been fulfilling your stewardship obligations despite the situation we are facing. A list of our pledged members to date is included in this bulletin. If you have not had an opportunity to pledge as of yet, no worries. Just call the office for a pledge form to be mailed to you or ask for one the next time you attend church service. If you would like to increase your pledge, please let us know. Your participation helps to support the ministries of St. George.

It is important to remember that in addition to supporting the financial needs of the Church, your pledge is a personal commitment you have with God.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 "The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

May God bless you and your families.

The Stewardship Committee



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

2020 Stewardship Pledges: We are grateful for those members listed below who have submitted their 2020 stewardship pledge as of July 5, 2020. Thank all for your contributions to our church. Your continued and consistent support will help our ministries and vision.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Antonovich & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Euripidou	Mrs. Anna Menagias
Mr. John Behiri	Ms. Renee Euripidou	Mr. & Mrs. Fillipos Menagias
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Behiri	Mr. Arthur Georgelas	Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Menagias
Ms. Susan Birbilis	Mrs. Helena Georgelas	Ms. Maria Menagias
Mrs. Lucy Brady & Family	Mr. Nicholas Georgelas	Mrs. Rena Mikropoulos & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Bratsos	Mrs. Eliana Georgelos	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Morlock & Family
Mrs. Ifigenia Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Giakoumis	Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Nikolaidis
Ms. Arji Cakouros	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Goodale & Family	Mr. Simeon Nikolaidis
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Casey & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Dimitri Grivas	Mrs. Katherine Orfan
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Chamberas	Mr. Periklis Hais	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pagiotas
Mr. Andreas Christou &	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Holdsworth	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pagones
Ms. Sophia Shakolas	Mr. & Mrs. Owen Huggins	Mr. & Mrs. Nick Paravalos
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Christou	Mrs. Frusina Ica Iancu	Voula Paravalos
Ms. Ariana Christou	Dr. Philip & Helen James & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Rossetti
Mr. & Mrs. Euripides Christou	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Jones & Family	Fr. Neofitos & Pres. Sarigiannis
Ms. Catherine Contompasis	Mrs. Catherine Julius	Mrs. Elena Sikamiotis & Family
Mrs. Catherine Contompasis	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kalil	Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Sokaris & Family
Mr. Charles Contompasis & Laurie Ives & Family	Ms. Antonia Kananis	Mrs. Ourania Sokaris
Ms. Constance Contompasis	Mrs. Fanny Karamanos	Mrs. Roubina Spyros-Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Contompasis & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Hari Kingra & Family	Mrs. Stavroula Stamoulis
Ms. Demetra Corsones	Mr. Charles Koines	Mr. & Mrs. Van Stathis
Dr. Peter & Stephanie Cospito	Mrs. Katina Kontakos	Mr. James Stevens
Mr. & Mrs. George Cotzas	Ms. Kaliopi Kounoupis	Mrs. Olga Stryjski
Mrs. Rena Counavelis	Mrs. Voula Kounoupis	Mr. & Mrs. Adam Svokos
Mrs. Marianne Crary	Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kouray	Mrs. Themetria Svolos
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Dafniotis	Ms. Barbara Koutsakis	Ms. Angela Theodore
Ms. Olga Delorey	Mr. & Mrs. David Lambert	Ms. Melissa Verrigni
Ms. Joanne Diamantis	Mr. & Mrs. Trifon Laskaris	Mr. & Mrs. Niko Verrigni & Family
Mrs. Katina Dikas & Family	Mr. & Mrs. Paul LaViolette	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Whipple & Family
Mrs. J. Maria Dostis-Koliatsis	Mr. William Manikas	Mrs. Mary Wilson
Mrs. Marguerite Doulides	Mrs. Cathy Marco	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Zanos
Mrs. Angela Economou	Mrs. Akrivi Markopoulos	Mrs. Anastasia Zoulas
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Engwer & Family	Mr. & Mrs. William McDonald & Family	Mrs. Mary Zoulas
	Mr. & Mrs. Phil McGowen	
	Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Menagias	

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church Info

2020 PARISH COUNCIL: Brian Goodale, President; Maria Dostis, Vice President; Alexandra Casey, Treasurer; Scott Morlock, Secretary; Roubina Morgan, Lucy Brady, Dimitri Koutsopoulos

Office: (518) 393-0742 Fax: (518) 393-4093

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Reverend Father Neofitos Sarigiannis frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com

107 Clinton Street Schenectady, NY 12305 - Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 AM – 2 PM Parish Office closed on Friday

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SaintGeorgeNY/>

St. George Square Site <https://st-george-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/>



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

St. George Bookstore - Our new bookstore is now open.

"Come and See..."



Bookstore items are available for viewing and purchase online as well. Pick up only.

<https://st-george-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/>

The Daily Readings Mobile App
There is *no better* way to carry the Church's prescribed Scripture & devotional readings with you at all times.

Now available for **iPhone, Android, Kindle Fire, and Windows Phone.**



Saint Sophia

DRIVE-THRU

GREEK FEAST

July 10
4 - 8 PM

July 11
12 - 8 PM

July 12
12 - 6 PM

Must pre-order online. Pick-up at
440 WHITEHALL ROAD
ALBANY, NY

For more information visit:
www.stsophialbany.org/greek-feast





Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

St. George Ministry Leaders

Altar Servers	Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis	frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com
Bookstore	Presvytera Catherine Sarigiannis Gladys Paravalos	csarigiannis22@gmail.com Gladys1717p@aol.com
Bible Study/ Book Club	Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis	
Choir/Chanters	Olga Delorey	odelorey@nycap.rr.com
Church Ushers	Brian Goodale	brian.goodale@outlook.com
Epistle Readers	Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis	
Fellowship Group	Eliana Georgelos	ggeorgelos@nycap.rr.com
Friends of St. George	Gladys Paravalos	
Ladies Philoptochos Society	Olga Delorey	
Office Manager and Facilities Staff	Camille Kosloski	office@saintgeorgegoc.com
Order of AHEPA	Phil Menagias	p_menagias@hotmail.com
Parish Council Members	Brian Goodale	
Soup Kitchen	Olga Delorey	
Stewardship	Lucy Brady	Lukia@nycap.rr.com Dafnia3@yahoo.com
Sunday School Teachers and Assistants	Fr. Neofitos Sarigiannis	
"Thursday Morning Boys"	Steve Giakoumis	518-372-4476
Building and Grounds Volunteers		
Youth Group Leaders and Volunteers: Angels/HOPE/JOY and GOYA	Lucy Goodale Toni Kananis Anna Morlock	lq1010@live.com anna217m@aol.com

Prayer for Protection against a Pandemic

Lord Jesus Christ our God, You Who created human beings with utter goodness, the healer of our souls and bodies, heed now the supplication of Your children, and save us from the impending threat against the world. For this affliction has spread ferociously and the fear of death has surrounded us. Many have suffered and many have passed on to repose, and there is none to save us, except You, O Lord.

We know, Merciful Lord, that all this will cultivate our faith, as we implore you, crying out in utter repentance. Undo, O Lord, the dangerous effects of the virus and heal all people, as a most Gracious Lord. For those, who repose in peace, give rest in Your heavenly abode. Grant peace to the world, so that all people know that You are the Only God, and your faithful are not bound by death, but live forever.

For You are our hope and our whole life is in Your benevolent hands, and to You we give glory, as well as to the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

JULY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 3 rd Sunday of Matthew	29	30	1	2	3 Independence Day Holiday	4 Independence Day
5 4 th Sunday of Matthew 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 5 th Sunday of Matthew 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Chris Dafinotis 40 day Memorial Athanasio Stamoulis 6 month Memorial	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Fathers of the 4 th Ecumenical Council 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Festi	20 Prophet Elias 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	21 6:30 PM Parish Council Meeting	22	23	24	25 Dormition of Anna Mother of Theotokos 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM Orthros & Divine Liturgy
26 7 th Sunday of Matthew 8:30 AM Orthros 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy Planning Meeting for Fall 2020 Fundraising Events	27	28	29	30	31	1

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



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We look forward to seeing everyone in church!

[Come visit our brand-new square site!](https://st-george-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/)

<https://st-george-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/>

- Online St. George Bookstore
- Fill out a Prayer Request and Fr. Neofitos will pray for the names of the individuals and families submitted.
- Make a One-Time Donations
- Make Other Offerings like- Altar Vigil Lamp Candle – Communion Wine – Prosforo – Koliva
- Light Candles if you are away from St. George

Donations

We would like to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude for your support. It is through such acts of kindness that we can continue to grow our ministry.

- **[Stewardship contributions](#)** – Can be mailed into our office or made through **[PayPal](#)**
- **[One-Time Donations](#)** – Can be made through our **[new square site](#)**

Please email or call the office if you have any questions 518-393-0742.