



# THE TRIUMPHANT

**Saint George Greek Orthodox Church**

**Father Neofitos Sarigiannis**

**[frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com](mailto:frneofitos@saintgeorgegoc.com)**

## January / February 2025

**HOLY EPIPHANY**

**BLESSING OF THE WATERS MOHAWK RIVER**



**Date: Sunday, January 5th at 12:15 pm after services and coffee hour – St. George GOC – Schenectady, NY**



# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## Location: The Harbor by the River's Casino

Location: The Harbor and Amphitheater  
(by the River's Casino)

151 Harborside Drive, Schenectady, NY 12305

Come join us as we bless the waters of the Mohawk River  
(Dress Warmly)



## **HELLENIC CENTER FOR RENT**

Our beautiful Hellenic Center is available for parties, baby showers, baptisms, and weddings. Contact the church office for an appointment and tour. Office hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm. Call 518-393-0742. Please spread the word.



ST. GEORGE GOC SCHOOL OF GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Greek Night FUNDRAISER

HELLENIC CENTER • SCHENECTADY, NY

2nd Annual

# Snow Ball

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 2025 6PM - 11PM

*Featuring*

**THE AEGEAN DUO**



## Tickets

Adults \$50 • Youth (under 18) \$25

\*CASH BAR\* • BASKET RAFFLE

PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. GEORGE GREEK SCHOOL

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT 518-275-8828

ALL TICKETS ARE ONLY PRE-SALE



# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## January 2025

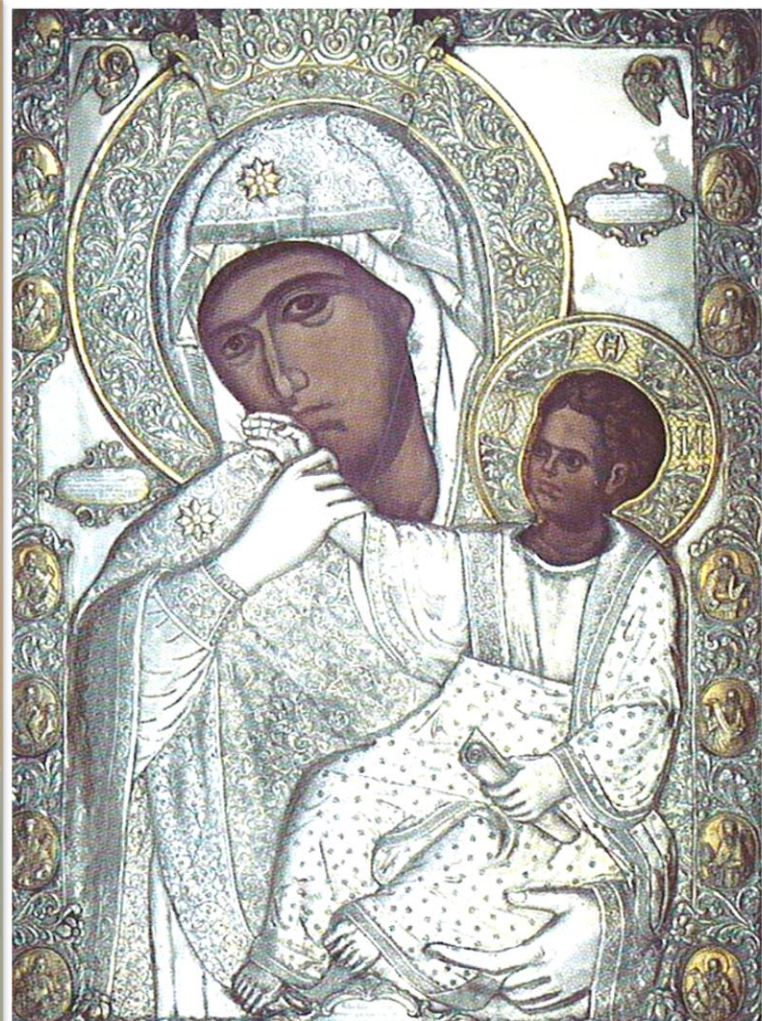
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>29</b> Sunday after the Nativity 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy James Halios Chrismation Trisagion Service for Gerasimos Markopoulos	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:30pm St. Basil's Feast Day-Orthros & Divine Liturgy - Troy - NY	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>3</b> 8:30am Great and Royal Hours of Epiphany  4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom  6:00pm Philoptochos Christmas Party	<b>4</b> 5:30pm Vespers
<b>5</b> Sunday before Theophany 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Sunday School after Holy Communion (Eve of Theophany) Philoptochos Special Tray Collection St. Basil Academy Vasilopita 6:30pm Great Vespers	<b>6</b> Epiphany of our Lord Orthros and St. Basil's Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of the Waters 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 4:00pm Emmanuel Angel Molnar baptism	<b>7</b> St. John the Baptist Feastday 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy  5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>8</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>9</b> 12:00pm Senior Fellowship Meeting  4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>10</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Vespers
<b>12</b> Sunday after the Theophany 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5 years Memorial for Athanasios Stamoulis 12:30pm Philoptochos Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary	<b>15</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>16</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>17</b> St. Anthony Feastday 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy  4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>18</b> St. Athanasios Feastday 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm Vespers 6:00pm Snowball Dance
<b>19</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Sunday School after Holy Communion	<b>20</b> 6:30pm Great Vespers	<b>21</b> St. Neophytos and St. Maximos Feastday 7:00am Soup Kitchen Lunch Bag Prep 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Dinner & Q & A with Father	<b>22</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>23</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>24</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>25</b> St. Gregory Feastday 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy  Soup Stroll  5:30pm Vespers
<b>26</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>29</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>30</b> The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>31</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>1</b> Trypho the Martyr 5:30pm Vespers



# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>26</b> 15th Sunday of Luke 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>29</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>30</b> The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>31</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>1</b> Trypho the Martyr 5:30pm Vespers
<b>2</b> Presentation of our Lord 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Sunday School after Holy Communion (God Parent Sunday) Teaching Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Go Red Sunday	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Dinner & Q & A with Father	<b>5</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>6</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>7</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>8</b> 5:30pm Vespers
<b>9</b> Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee Triodion Begins 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Philoptochos Meeting	<b>10</b> St. Charalambos 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary	<b>12</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>13</b> 12:00pm Senior Fellowship Meeting  4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>14</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>15</b> 5:30pm Vespers
<b>16</b> Sunday of the Prodigal Son 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Sunday School after Holy Communion Trisagion Service for Athena Loukas, Irene & Christos Loukas, Fotine Euripidou	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00am Soup Kitchen Bag Lunch Prep 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Bible Study	<b>19</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>20</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>21</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>22</b> 1st Saturday of Souls 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5:30pm Vespers  Philoptochos Family Movie Night
<b>23</b> Judgment (Meatfare) Sunday 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 5:30pm Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary 6:30pm Dinner & Q & A with Father	<b>26</b> 4:00pm -7:00 pm Youth Online Greek School via Zoom  5:00pm -8:00pm Adult Greek School via Zoom	<b>27</b> 4:45pm In-Person Greek School	<b>28</b> 4:00pm Youth Greek School online via Zoom	<b>1</b> 2nd Saturday of the Souls 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy  5:30pm Vespers



## **The Feasts of Sts. Neophytos, Maximos, and Panagia Paramythea**

**Monday, January 20, 2025**

6:30 pm Great Vespers

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025**

8:30 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy

Followed by Coffee Hour  
in the Hellenic Center

5:30 pm Paraklesis to St. Neophytos

6:30 pm Dinner and Q and A with Fr.



## From the desk of Fr. Neofitos

### House Blessings

It is a distinct blessing, each year during the season of Holy Theophany, for all Orthodox Christians to have their homes and places of business blessed by their priest. The yearly blessing of homes at the Feast of the Theophany touches our daily lives with the sanctifying water in which our Lord was baptized. In blessing a home, the Church asks God to drive away every evil influence from our home and those who live in it, and to renew with extra vigor the influence of the Holy Spirit in our homes and lives. The Fathers speak of the Christian home as a little church, and just as we chase away the influences of the evil one from our parish, so too must we do in our own family.

#### **How to Prepare for a Home / Business Blessing**

In preparing for a house blessing, the following should be noted:

1. A quiet and reverent environment: Turn off the television and radio before the priest arrives. Assemble all the family and friends in the home around the kitchen or wherever an icon is prepared for the occasion. When the priest arrives, turn off our phones.
2. Prepare the table: For the house blessing, the priest will require the following: An icon, a lit candle, a hand censer, a small, clean bowl for holy water, and a sprig of basil. (if possible)

#### **Troparion of Theophany several times:**

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan,  
 the worship of the Trinity was made manifest!  
 For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee,  
 and called Thee His beloved Son!  
 And the Spirit, in the form of a dove,  
 confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
 O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself  
 and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Would You Like To Have Your Home/ business Blessed? You do not have to be Orthodox to have your home/ business blessed. Tell your friends and neighbors as well.

#### **House and Business Blessings**

On January 6, 2025 Father Neofitos will begin blessing homes and businesses. Please fill out the card below and return to the office for confirmation.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name -** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address -** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell/ Main # -** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred day and time -** \_\_\_\_\_

**Feel free to contact the office if you have any questions. 518-393-0742**

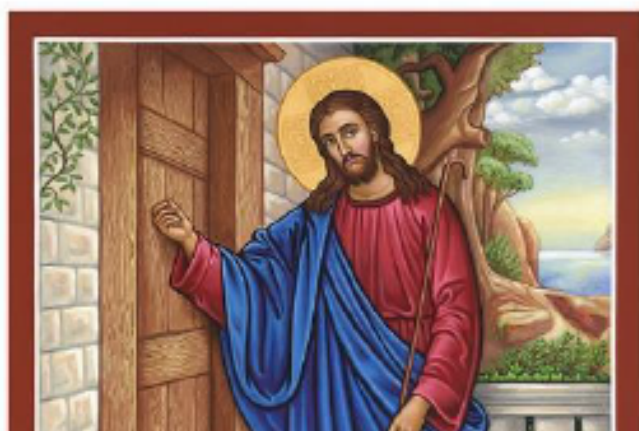
## Adult Religious Education Calendar 2024-25

- Dinner Q and A with Father is at 6:30 pm in the Hellenic Center.
- Bible Study is at 6:30 pm in the Church. (a zoom option will be offered)
- Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary is on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. Occasionally on certain holidays vespers will be celebrated instead.

### Tuesdays

Bible Study	10/1/2024
Dinner Q and A	10/8/2024
Off	10/15/2024
Bible Study	10/22/2024
Dinner Q and A	10/29/2024
Dinner Q and A	11/5/2024
Off	11/12/2024
Bible Study	11/19/2024
Dinner Q and A	11/26/2024
Bible Study	12/3/2024
Off	12/10/2024
Dinner Q and A	12/17/2024
Off	12/24/2024
Off	12/31/2024
Bible Study	1/7/2025
Off	1/14/2025

Dinner Q and A	1/21/2025
Bible Study	1/28/2025
Dinner Q and A	2/4/2025
Off	2/11/2025
Bible Study	2/18/2025
Dinner Q and A	2/25/2025
Bible Study	3/4/2025
Off	3/11/2025
Dinner Q and A	3/18/2025
Bible Study	3/25/2025
Dinner Q and A	4/1/2025
Off	4/8/2024
Off	4/15/2024
Off	4/22/2024
Bible Study	4/29/2025
Dinner Q and A	5/6/2025
Off	5/13/2024
Bible Study	5/20/2025
Dinner Q and A	5/27/2025



***Revelation 3:20***

***Behold, I stand at the door and knock.***





**Philoptochos Spaghetti Dinner & Auction**



# TEACHING DIVINE LITURGY

Sunday, October 20 at 9:30 am – The Preparation

Sunday, November 17 at 9:30 am – Liturgy of the Word

Sunday, February 2 at 9:30 am - Liturgy of the Eucharist

For You are the One Who both offers and is offered, the  
One Who is received and is distributed..."

From the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom



# WELCOME TO OUR ST. GEORGE FAMILY

## Year-End 2024 Stewardship Pledges

We are grateful for those members listed below who have submitted their 2024 stewardship pledge as of December 22, 2024. Your continued and consistent support will help our church continue to grow and prosper. To become a full member of our church, please fill out the Pledge form enclosed or attached and return it to the office.

Mr. & Mrs. George Alatzas  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Andrikopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Arrington  
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Avgerakis  
Mr. Jason Baker  
Ms. Athina Beaury  
Mr. John Behiri  
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Behiri  
Ms. Susan Birbilis  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Brady  
Mr. & Mrs. Sotirios Bratsos  
Ms. Arji Cakouros  
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Casey  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Chamberas  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Chamberas  
Dr. Fanny Caranikas  
Mr. Andreas & Mrs. Sophia Christou  
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Christou  
Ms. Arianna Christou  
Mr. & Mrs. Euripides Christou  
Mrs. Catherine Contompasis  
Ms. Catherine Contompasis  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Contompasis  
Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Contompasis  
Miss Demetra Corsones  
Dr. & Mrs. Peter Cospito  
Mr. & Mrs. George Cotzas  
Mrs. Rena Counavelis  
Mr. & Mrs. Constantin Culai  
Mrs. Joanne Dafniotis  
Mrs. Valerie D'Amario  
Mr. & Mrs. Christos Damaskos  
Ms. Linda Davison  
Mr. & Mrs. Konstantin Deligiannis  
Ms. Olga Delorey  
Ms. Joanne Diamantis  
Mrs. Mary Dikas  
Mr. Takis Dikas  
Mrs. Maria Dostis

Mr. & Mrs. Brad Engwer  
Ms. Christina Esposito  
Mr. Zachary Esposito  
Mr. Evan Euripidou  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Euripidou  
Mr. & Mrs. James Fishburn  
Mrs. Janet Gallas  
Mr. Arthur Georgelas  
Mrs. Helena Georgelas  
Mrs. Eliana Georgelos  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Giakoumis  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Giakoumis  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Goodale  
Mr. & Mrs. Tristan Knapp  
Dr. Jeffrey Hnath & Dr. Efrossini Kolios  
Mr. & Mrs. Owen Huggins  
Mrs. Frusina Ica Iancu  
Dr. & Mrs. Philip James  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Jones  
Mrs. Catherine Julius  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kalil  
Ms. Antonia Kananis  
Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Kolios  
Mrs. Maria Konatakos  
Ms. Kaliopi Kounoupis  
Mrs. Voula Kounoupis  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kouray  
Mr. Dimitrios Koutsopoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Haralambos Koutsopoulos  
Mrs. Anna Ktenas  
Mr. & Mrs. David Lambert  
Mr. & Mrs. Trifon Laskaris  
Ms. Christine Legorisis  
Mr. William Manikas  
Mrs. Akrivi Markopoulos  
Mr. Gus Marmarinos  
Ms. Erin Martino & Family  
Mr. Steve Mastromichalis  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael McGowen  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip McGowen  
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Menagias

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Menagias  
Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Menagias  
Mr. Demetrios Michael  
Ms. Anastasia Mikropoulos  
Mrs. Antonia Mikropoulos  
Ms. Antonia C. Mikropoulos  
Ms. Demetra Mikropoulos  
Mr. Taso Mikropoulos  
Mr. Theodore Mikropoulos  
Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Evangelos Nikolaidis  
Mr. Simeon Nikolaidis  
Mr. Constantine Orfan  
Mrs. Katherine Orfan  
Mrs. Joann Pagiotas  
Mrs. Athena Pagnotti  
Mr. & Mrs. Kostantinos Papanikos  
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Paravalos  
Ms. Voula Paravalos  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Poveda  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Poveda  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Rayburn  
Ms. Sophia A. Reynolds  
Fr. & Pres. Sarigiannis  
Mr. LeGrande Serras  
Mrs. Elena Sikamiotis  
Ms. Aphrodite Slingerland  
Mrs. Ourania Sokaris  
Ms. Roubina Spyros-Morgan  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerasimos Stamoulis  
Ms. Maria Stamoulis  
Mrs. Stavroula Stamoulis  
Mr. & Mrs. Van Stathis  
Mrs. Olga Stryjski  
Mr. & Mrs. George Svolos  
Mr. & Mrs. Vasilis Tarelli  
Mr. Christos Trapalis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Vlahakis  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Whipple  
Mrs. Sophia Zanasos  
Mrs. Anastasia Zoulas

*To become a full member of the church, please speak with Fr. Neofitos.*

*Online Pledging and Stewardship are now available on our website or click the link below:*

<https://onrealm.org/STGEORGEGREEKOR91825/-/form/pledge/stewardship2>



## Frequently Asked Questions

### *How do I become a member of the parish?*

Membership in the Orthodox Church begins at baptism (Chrismation for some) and continues throughout our life. We are united with Christ through the sacraments, or mysteries, of the Church and through our faithful offering of our entire selves to Jesus Christ. Our Archdiocese requires each parish to distinguish between voting members and non-voting members. A voting member is over 18 years of age and turns in a signed stewardship commitment card, committing a portion of time, talent and treasure to the Church. The Archdiocese also requires the voting member to remain current through the year on their commitments. Keep in mind that true membership in the Body of Christ involves living according to His word and within His Church.

### *Why must I commit to give a specific amount?*

Please keep in mind that your stewardship of money is kept in the strictest of confidence. However, we do compile the amounts anticipated to better plan our budget.

### *What if I cannot fulfill my stewardship commitment?*

During the course of a year, circumstances change. Your stewardship is valued because it is made out of your love for God and His Church. Please do not be concerned if you are unable to meet your stewardship commitment – we are glad you are a part of this parish.



## Eternal Life begins Now

“The Church is the unity of all worlds, earthly and heavenly, of angels and men, of the living and the dead. We obtain real communion with God and we participate in God’s uncreated energy. God does not stay in heaven, directing history from there. He directs the world with His uncreated governing energies. We do not aim at appeasing God, but to heal ourselves, so that the vision of God becomes light for us and not fire. Furthermore, in the Church we live eternal life starting from now. We do not simply await the life to come, but we experience and enjoy it from the present. The Kingdom of God, according to the Fathers, is not life beyond the grave, but communion with God, above all, the vision of the uncreated Light.”

Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos  
*The Illness and Cure of the Soul in the Orthodox Tradition*



Saint George Greek Orthodox Church  
Father Neofitos Sarigiannis

[neofitos@stgeorgegoc.com](mailto:neofitos@stgeorgegoc.com)

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[www.stgeorgegoc.com](http://www.stgeorgegoc.com)

# Your Own from Your Own



# We Offer to You

## 2025 PLEDGE FORM

# Information

If you are already a member, please fill out the shaded areas

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ STEWARDSHIP NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
 BAPTIZED ORTHODOX?  yes  no

NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)  
 BAPTIZED ORTHODOX?  yes  no

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  yes  no  
*MAY WE ADD YOU TO OUR EMAIL LIST?*

EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

Dependent Children's names and birthdates:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



# Treasure

## Budget

Our annual expenses for 2025 will be approximately \$400,000.

Stewardship donations in 2024 were approximately \$80,000.

The average pledge at our church for 2024 is about \$700.

Challenge 1: Could you give \$25 each week? (\$1,300 annually)

Challenge 2: Can we collectively give 2% of our income?

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church the following amount for 2025:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 weekly  monthly  quarterly  
 One Time

Yearly Income	1%	2%
\$10,000	\$100	\$200
\$15,000	\$150	\$300
\$20,000	\$200	\$400
\$30,000	\$300	\$600
\$40,000	\$400	\$800
\$50,000	\$500	\$1,000
\$100,000	\$1,000	\$2,000

## Yearly Income Percentage Guide to Giving

# planned giving

"I would like to speak with someone about how to remember the church in my will, trust, or estate plan."

# Time & Talent

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓). Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

## EDUCATION

- \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Study
- \_\_\_\_\_ Intro to Orthodoxy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Speakers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bookstore

## LITURGICAL

- \_\_\_\_\_ Altar boys / Acolytes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choir
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chanting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reader
- \_\_\_\_\_ Greeter/Usler
- \_\_\_\_\_ Baking Prosefona
- \_\_\_\_\_ Koliva maker
- \_\_\_\_\_ Anthesis maker

## YOUTH

- \_\_\_\_\_ Dance Troupe
- \_\_\_\_\_ Greek School Teacher
- \_\_\_\_\_ Greek School Board
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday School Teacher
- \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Advisor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Camp Counselor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ Young Adults

## MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Welcome Team
- \_\_\_\_\_ Outreach
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stewardship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coffee Hour/Hospitality
- \_\_\_\_\_ Visitation - Hospital
- \_\_\_\_\_ Philopothos - Soup Kitchen
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prison Ministry
- \_\_\_\_\_ Grief Bereavement Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Drives
- \_\_\_\_\_ Project Mexico
- \_\_\_\_\_ Int'l Orth Christian Charities
- \_\_\_\_\_ OCMC Mission Center
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seniors Ministry (Fellowship)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising
- \_\_\_\_\_ Friends of St. George
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order of AHEPA

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Garden & Landscape
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plumbing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical
- \_\_\_\_\_ Event Clean-up/Set-up
- \_\_\_\_\_ Interior Repairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Exterior Repairs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Roofing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hall Rentals
- \_\_\_\_\_ Handyman
- \_\_\_\_\_ "Thursday Morning Boys"
- \_\_\_\_\_ Building and Grounds Volunteers

## ADMINISTRATION

- \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Council
- \_\_\_\_\_ Development / Fundraising
- \_\_\_\_\_ Office help
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer / Technical

## COMMUNICATIONS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Web site & E-mail
- \_\_\_\_\_ Graphic Design
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bulletin & Newsletter
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Relations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Data Entry

Any other talents or information on items listed above:

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# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## MEMORIAL SERVICES and PHILOPTOCHOS COFFEE HOUR SPONSORSHIP

(effective January 1, 2025)

Please call the church office (518-393-0742) to schedule a Memorial Service. The Ladies Philoptochos Society oversees the coffee hour every Sunday. After reserving the date with the Parish Priest, you need to contact Lucy Brady, Coffee Hour Chairperson, at 518-542-4391 if you wish to sponsor a Memorial Coffee Hour. Memorial Coffee Hours are by special arrangement only and it is your responsibility to make this request. Upon confirmation, the following should be expected:

### Food

The food provided for a memorial is a combination of baked good items, cookies, cheese & crackers, fruit, etc. A quart of milk for the coffee and half gallon of orange juice for the children is included. **The Ladies Philoptochos will purchase the food for you and present you with receipts for reimbursement.** Should you prefer to offer a Memorial Coffee Hour on your own, please include milk for coffee and juice in addition to whatever food items you choose.

### Coffee/Tea/Paper Goods

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 or more sponsors)

### Services

The Ladies of the Philoptochos Society will do the grocery shopping, set up, and serve your coffee hour. 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.

### Philoptochos Donation

The Ladies Philoptochos Society is a philanthropic organization of the Greek Orthodox Church whose mission is to provide aid to the poor, the homeless, the sick and the disadvantaged. Our Ladies work very hard at each coffee hour to purchase, set up and serve the food.

Your kindness in making a generous donation to the Ladies Philoptochos Society in memory of your loved one, in addition to the cost of the coffee hour, would be deeply appreciated. For tax purposes, a letter acknowledging your donation will be provided.

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## KOLIVA – Memorial for the Departed

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

40 Day Memorial

1 Year Memorial

Annual Memorial

Saturday of Souls, for our family members and friends who have departed

Koliva can be provided for your service, but you must place an order with the church office (518-393-0742) at least one week in advance. Philoptochos does not make Koliva and it is not automatically provided. The cost for a large tray is \$100.





# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church



## St. George Philoptochos

### Xronia Polla! 2025

We welcome the new year with an updated roll of 32 members. Thank you and we look forward to a terrific year ahead! We would like to thank our parish community for its generous support for the Philoptochos annual fundraiser (Spaghetti Luncheon and Basket Raffle) this past November. We achieved a record-breaking outcome, and that enables our chapter to continue its mission of helping those most in need. A heartfelt thank you to our event chairs: Aleka, Elaine, Dina, Olga, Eliana and Patty. And thank you to all who brought desserts, prepared the baskets, donated food and served the meal. Philoptochos is honored to play a role in the celebration of the **feast day of St. Basil on January 1st.**

**The legend of Saint Basil.** The story goes that Saint Basil, a bishop known for his generosity, asked the citizens of Caesarea to contribute gold and jewelry to end a siege. The citizens were so generous that the enemy called off the siege without collecting the ransom. Saint Basil then baked the valuables into loaves of bread and distributed them to the people, and each citizen received exactly what they had given.



**The tradition of Vasilopita.** In honor of Saint Basil, people bake a sweet bread or cake with a hidden coin or trinket, called a flouri, and cut it on New Year's Day. The person who receives the slice with the coin is said to be blessed with good luck for the new year. The cake is also a reminder of what Saint Basil did for the people of Greece.

Philoptochos will bring the Vasilopita breads for blessing and distribution in church on **January 5th.**

Together with Saint Gregory the Theologian and Saint John Chrysostom, Saint Basil the Great is recognized as one of the three great hierarchs of the Orthodox Church. The Church celebrates the feast of these venerable Three Hierarchs on January 30th.

**Saint Basil's Academy**, which provides shelter and nurtures children and families, bears the name of Saint Basil in his honor. Philoptochos will pass a special collection tray on January 5<sup>th</sup> for the benefit of the children served by St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NY. For those of you who have never visited the campus, I strongly encourage you to do so. Perhaps we can schedule a trip from our parish. Please let me know if you are interested. You can also learn about the mission of St. Basil's Academy by visiting online <https://sbagoa.org/>

Members please mark your calendars and attend!

Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm: Philoptochos 12 Days of Christmas Celebration.

Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm: Philoptochos Business Meeting in the Hellenic Center.

## Things of My Very Own: Tree Lighting Charity / Collection

"The parishioners of St. George donated pillows, sheets, blankets, hygienic supplies, as well as more than \$1000 to Things of My Very Own, a non-profit that provides crisis intervention services to children impacted by extensive abuse who are at-risk of a Child Protective Services intervention. Fr. Neofitos met with the vice president and founder, Rayn Boncie, who gave a tour of the facility.

In preparation for Christmas, the volunteers and donations filled the halls, bringing critical amenities, care, and love to children who desperately need it. Unfortunately, these necessary resources are lacking when the holiday season passes. This leads to children no longer having things as basic as baby soap.

Parishioners are encouraged to remember to donate to those in need, not just during the holidays, but all year long, so resource droughts like this don't impact the children of our community."





# Holiday Boutique 2024



Full Photo Gallery on:

<https://www.saintgeorgeoc.com/photos>







# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## FELLOWSHIP

### FELLOWSHIP NEWS FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

By Eliana Georgelos

Greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year from the Fellowship group. We wish all our St. George family peace and good health in the coming year of 2025! Although this issue of the Triumphant covers the months of January and February, the Fellowship group wishes to highlight the ministries of our St. George community throughout the past year.

This past year of 2024, we have seen a wonderful resurgence of our ministries including Philoptochos, Fellowship, AHEPA, Bible study and book club groups, as well as our Greek school, Sunday school and altar boys...all of whom are growing and going strong. In addition, Stewardship has been steadily increasing, with our church membership continuing to grow.

Fellowship members were involved in most of the ministries and fundraisers of our church, including our annual Greek festival in September which again was a huge success, surpassing all previous festivals. In November, our Ladies Philoptochos Society, an important ministry of St. George, put on a delicious spaghetti and meatball dinner and auction. Numerous parishioners and Fellowship members helped to make this fundraiser a great success. Then in December, our Holiday Boutique craft fair and Greek pastry sale turned out to be our best ever thanks to the many parishioners and Fellowship members who made it so.

Thanks to Father Neofitos, Presvytera Catherine and Lucy Brady, our liturgies and other services have continued unabated. With our choir unable to sing for several weeks in December due to our choir director, Olga Delorey, having been diagnosed with pneumonia, we have been blessed that Presvytera Catherine and Lucy have so beautifully chanted every service during the time of Olga's illness.

As I write this, we are in the midst of the Nativity fast which lasts until December 24th. In early December, we enjoyed a lovely Christmas tree lighting ceremony that was precipitated by the blessing in church of the artoklasia. And on the Sunday before Christmas, the Greek school and Sunday school children participated in a beautiful Christmas pageant which included the singing of Christmas carols and a visit from Santa Claus (Fellowship member Peter Kalil). Our Santa presented each child with a wrapped gift, bringing much joy and excitement to all of them. A wonderful time was had by all!

Our Fellowship Christmas party had been scheduled to take place during the first week in December at the Bellevue Cafe. However, we were all disappointed that our gathering needed to be cancelled due to snow. Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 9, 2025 at noon at the Bellevue Cafe. We pray for good weather on that date!

In early January we celebrate the feast of Holy Theophany which commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. Following this feast day, Father Neofitos conducts the service of the Blessing of the Waters. We all gather at Mohawk Harbor behind the Rivers Casino where Father throws a cross into the river to bless the waters of the Mohawk.

Let us pray that 2025 brings us all God's blessings for a year of good health, peace, contentment and joy. May we continue to enjoy the love of our family and close friends throughout the year!





# Christmas Tree Lighting 2024





# Greek School and Sunday School Christmas Pageant





Tri-City Philoptochos & Daughters

# Winter Luncheon

Sat., Jan 25, 2025 at Noon

Italian American Community Center  
257 Washington Ave Ext.

**\$40 per person**

Please RSVP by Wed., Jan.18th  
Online /Call/Text

Lea Marinopoulos 518-528-4984

Scan to RSVP  
online



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*Submit this portion with payment to  
St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church  
Tri-City Luncheon  
440 Whitehall Rd.  
Albany, NY 12208*

*Please make checks payable to Philoptochos*

**Please circle your meal choice:**

**Sliced Pork Tenderloin**  
with Apple Compote

**Grilled Salmon**  
in Lemon Basil Butter

**Eggplant Parmesan**

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**Name & Email**

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**Phone Number**



# SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



## ΕΛΛΗΝΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ

### SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES JANUARY 2025

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

Great and Royal Hours of Epiphany  
8:30-10:30 a.m.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

##### *Sunday before Epiphany*

Orthros, Divine Liturgy, & Great  
Blessing of the Waters  
8:30-11:00 a.m.  
Great Vespers  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 6

##### *The Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

Epiphany of our Lord, Orthros, St. Basil's Divine  
Liturgy, & Great Blessing of the Waters  
8:30-11:00 a.m.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

##### *St. John the Baptist Feast Day*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:00-10:30 a.m.  
Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary  
5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Vespers  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

##### *Sunday after Epiphany*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-11:00 a.m.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

##### *Leavetaking of the Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

##### *Saint Anthony Feast Day*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-10:30 a.m.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

##### *Saint Athanasios Feast Day*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-10:30 a.m.  
Vespers  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-11:00 a.m.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Great Vespers  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 21

##### *Saint Neophytos and Saint Maximos Feast Day*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-11:00 a.m.  
Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary  
5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Dinner and Q&A with Fr.  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

##### *Saint Gregory Feast Day*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-10:30 a.m.  
Vespers  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-11:00 a.m.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Paraklesis to the Virgin Mary  
5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

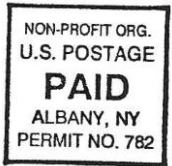
##### *The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom*

Orthros & Divine Liturgy  
8:30-10:30 a.m.



# Welcome to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

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



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