



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Ocean Township, New Jersey

the

Beacon

of Orthodoxy and Hellenism

March/April 2021

The Newsletter of St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Volume 20 Issue 7

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PROISTAMENOS

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY TOWARDS GOD AND HIS LOVE

Great and Holy Lent can be a new beginning for each of us. Lent will begin late in the year for us on Clean Monday March 16th. I am often asked what type of fast is prescribed for Lent, or, what can I eat or not eat during Lent? Firstly, Lent with just fasting, is just a forty-day diet. Fasting is only the beginning, as it is just a discipline which helps us to control our lives during Lent. The greatest accomplishment we can achieve during Lent is growing closer to our Lord and Savior and learn to love Him as he loves us. The best example of this love is the way a child loves his parents, unconditionally.

A child once said, "I really love Jesus more than anything in the whole world." In many ways, children are more capable of loving God than adults, as they are more trusting and more receptive to God's love. As adults, the secularism of our society along with our own failings have robbed us of the precious qualities of childhood, making us more self-centered and self-reliant. Unless we train and succeed in battling these forces, we will find the child-like love of God is no longer in our hearts.

Lent affords us the opportunity to rekindle the love we had for God when we were children. What is love? True love is a gift from God; it is the fruit of the Spirit. Without it, our spiritual progress is sluggish and stalled. As adults, we once again must reacquire this love and cultivate it in our hearts. Yet, how can we do this when we

live in a secular society with all of its pressures, especially in the trying times of COVID? We have many examples of individuals who have done just this. The Saints have proven to us time-and-time again how ordinary men, women, and children who in their secular settings and through their efforts to love God, overcame the same self-centeredness and self-reliance which surrounds us today; including the many plagues and pandemics that have afflicted the world throughout time.

We must pray and move towards God that He guide us to love Him, for God Himself is love and He bestows love as a gift of Himself. We cannot manufacture love ourselves; we can only attract it through our efforts, i.e. prayer, fasting, and by participating in the sacramental life of the church and reading scripture and other spiritual material. If we love God above all, this and this alone will provide the energy and motivation necessary to progress on the path to salvation and follow the road which the Saints of our Church have laid for us.

Please make every effort this Great and Holy Lent to overcome the pressures of society and become child-like once again; as did the saints, and once again open our hearts in a simple and true way to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Take full advantage of Great Lent to get back on track as we all have been derailed in our spiritual journeys during this pandemic. Through prayer

and fasting and the other avenues the Church has to offer, become child-like once again and we will overcome all that distracts us from Christ, including the COVID pandemic.

God Bless you all and give you strength keeping you safe and healthy,

+Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Continued on page 3

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Father Andrew's Office Hours

Mon., Tues., & Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wed.: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

If there is no response to your phone call during regular office hours, please leave a message and someone will return your call ASAP. In case of emergency, call the church office for more information.

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MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**AGAPE**

A.H.E.P.A.

Beacon

Bible Study

Cemetery

Choir Ministry

Daughters of Penelope

Funeral Ministry

G.O.Y.A.

G.O.Y.A.

Greek School

Greek School

Heritage

Heritage

Iconography

Kali Parea

Mustard Seed Bookstore

P.T.O.

Philoptochos

Photographers

Photographers

Sharing Our Faith Book Corner

Socialites

Soup Kitchen

Spiritual Enrichment

Spiritual Enrichment

Spiritual Growth

Spiritual Growth

St. George Acolytes

Stewardship

Sunday School

Webmaster

Website Administrator

Young Adult League (YAL)

Youth Advisors

Youth Advisors

Youth Advisors

Vicki Kamaratos

George Perentesis

Niki Piraquive

Teri Lalli

Billy Athans

Claire Chrysanthopoulos

Joanna Freidli

Sophia Anest

George Moutis

Anja Chatzopoulos

Tonia Sum

Maria Magriplis

Demitri Karagias

Peter Psillas

Anne Papageorge

Lela Panas

Teri Lalli

Barbara Panas Kozak

Marissa Costidis

Arthur Papaylion

Barbara Terlecsky

Teri Lalli

Sophia Anest

Soula Tsettos

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Rick Deet

Fr. Andrew Eugenis

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dn. Emanuel Tsamas

Dimitris Geaneas

Kristen Cline

Mike Sakelaris

Barbara Terlecsky

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slalli0726@gmail.com

While we cannot be together at St. George we ask that you join us for services via live stream on our website

www.stgeorgeap.org
or via our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/stgeorgeap.org

You can Light A Candle and Say a Prayer for every service – even when you cannot attend by simply visiting our web page

<https://saintgeorgenj.square.site/>

WEBSITE**Submissions**

If you would like to add an article or flyer to our website, please submit them to Barbara Terlecsky at bterlecsky@aol.com And make sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

*Masthead photo by
Yiorgos Sakelaris*

The St. George Beacon of Orthodoxy & Hellenism newsletter is published five times a year. All submissions and pictures will be reviewed prior to printing by the Beacon committee and under the guidance of Father Andrew Eugenis. All articles, flyers and photos must be submitted by email with a contact name and phone number to Niki Piraquive at niki.piraquive@gmail.com. All submissions must be received by the following deadline dates to be considered.

Edition

January/February

March/April

May/June

August/September/October

November/December

Deadline

December 1st

February 1st

April 1st

July 1st

October 1st

GUIDELINES FOR FASTING FOR THE FORTY DAYS OF LENT

I offer the following guidelines to be considered prayerfully and in consideration of any medical condition or dietary requirements a person may have.

Strict Fast – No meat, Fish, Milk, Dairy Products, Olive Oil.

Palm Sunday – Fish, Oil & Wine are permitted.

Feast of the Annunciation/March 25th – Fish, Oil & Wine are permitted

Shellfish are permitted throughout Great Lent

Remember Lent is a time of discipline, the conditioning, for both our bodies and souls. May we be strengthened and grow closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during this Lenten period, keeping in mind, a forty day fast without prayer, is only a forty day diet!

+Fr. Andrew

From the Parish Council...

Happy New Year! I pray that this year has been a healthy and safe one for you and your family and that our Savior be with you. Now, God willing with new therapies and vaccines we hope we are approaching the end of this pandemic and are able to restore our lives back to a more normal existence.

Sunday, January 31st, one of our parishioners, Emanuel Tsarnas was ordained Rev. Deacon in our St. George Church by His Eminence, Elpidophoros, The Archbishop of America. We were humbled and proud for our St. George family to share in this glorious event. Axios, Rev Deacon Emanuel!

Financially, we have been able to manage our finances and are exploring various options to help sustain our community. We continue to work diligently to keep our operating expenses down while maintaining our church and facility.

Thankfully, our new caterer in the cultural center, Jimmy Pecci, "Taste of Italy" has been with us for the past several months. Jimmy has been well received by our Ocean Township Community as well as by St. George. He is looking forward to working with us for our special events. In addition, our gym rentals have approached full capacity. We continue to be professional and insist on full safety measures regarding sanitation be implemented in our facility.

As the restrictions ease it will give me great pleasure to see you in church on Sundays. It will be a wonderful feeling when we are all back together as brothers and sisters attending the Divine Liturgy and preparing for our up and coming Lenten and Pascha services. While maintaining strict government restrictions, our parish continues to forge forward.

We appreciate all of the time, talents and treasures that our congregates have offered. We are so blessed to have a community eager to come together in worship and in giving. Please stay safe and healthy and we wish you a blessed Lenten season.

In Christ's Love,

Spiro Pappas

St George Parish Council President

SPIRIT OF STEWARDSHIP

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go”. - Joshua 1:9

As a result of this horrific Pandemic and while most of us are confined in our homes, we all need some words of wisdom as food to the heart, soul and mind. Sometimes a proverb can really speak to someone's situation.

- **“The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.”**
- **“All the days of the oppressed are wretched, but the cheerful heart has a continued feast.”**
- **“Better a small serving of vegetables with love than a fattened calf with hatred.”**
- **“The way of the sluggard is blocked with thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.”**
- **“Light in a messenger's eyes brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.”**

Let us be steadfast in our Orthodox faith and remember St. Augustine who said: **“Faith is to believe, on the word of God, what we do not see, and its reward is to see and enjoy what we believe.”**

STEWARDSHIP 2020-2021

We realize that some families may have been hit hard financially by the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking this into consideration, the Church cannot ask for anything but your prayers and faith.

However, for the families that have been more fortunate and are able, we kindly ask that they go one step beyond and financially help St. George by donating over and above their commitment for 2020.

Again, these are extraordinarily hard times, and we would like to remind you that the Church is here to serve you. If you need any type of help, please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Andrew, our Parish Council or any of our Ministries. Be assured everything will be kept confidential.

As mentioned in the past, it costs the church \$2,200 per day to continue functioning, regardless if it is open or closed. Your support and generosity, if you are able, would be greatly appreciated. Enclosed is a 2020 Stewardship Pledge form. If you have not already pledged, please kindly take the time to do so. Thank you!

“No one can have God as a Father

without having the Church as a Mother.” – St. Cyprian of Carthage

Regarding Stewardship 2021, Stewardship Sunday has been postponed until January, 2021. Stewardship envelopes will arrive at your homes by the time you read this article and have received the Beacon.

With strength (dynamis), courage (kouragion), and faith (pisti) these difficult and challenging times will pass, and the Church doors will open wide without restrictions.

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, may the New Year 2021 bring to you and your families Health, Happiness and Prosperity. Xronia Polla kai Kala me Ygeia kai Eftychia!

Let us all pray we stay healthy, safe and positive. God bless our St. George Community, our second family away from home!

**In God's Service,
Dimitris Geaneas-Stewardship Chairman
908-770-2426/jgeaneas@msn.com
Join our St. George group Facebook page.
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/stgeorgeap/>**

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1033 WEST PARK AVENUE, OCEAN, NJ 07712 PHONE: 732-775-2777 FAX: 732-775-0109

2021 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

Last Name _____ Are you a new member to St. George Y _____ N _____

First Name _____ Orthodox: Yes _____ No _____

Cell Phone # [] _____ e-mail address: _____

Occupation _____

Spouse's First Name _____ Orthodox: Yes _____ No _____

Cell Phone # [] _____ e-mail address: _____

Occupation _____

Street Address _____ Home Phone # [] _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Children's Name(s) & Birthdates(s) _____

PLEDGE INFORMATION

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work at *St. George Church for 2021*

- ☐ \$ _____ \$10,000 ☐ \$ _____ \$1,200 --- *Suggested minimum for Families*
- ☐ \$ _____ \$7,500 ☐ \$ _____ \$ 650 ---- *Suggested minimum for Seniors and Singles*
- ☐ \$ _____ \$5,000 ☐ \$ _____ \$ 100 ---- *Suggested minimum pledge for College Students*
- ☐ \$ _____ \$3,000 ☐ \$ _____ Other ----- *(Please enter Total Amount of your commitment)*

The above amount will be given: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually

Signature _____ Date _____

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT INFORMATION

I authorize the payment of my pledge, according to the payment plan selected, by the following credit card:

☐ VISA / ☐ MC / ☐ AMEX # _____ Exp. Date _____ Code _____

Cardholder's Name as shown on card (Please Print) _____

Card member's Signature _____



ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF GIVING ONLINE!!

Please note that you must fill out a form and/or enter your pledge on Vanco every year.

You can now pledge and pay your Stewardship and your regular weekly offerings with the convenience of electronic giving! On our new Vanco system, Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. Go to <http://stgeorgeap.org/vanco>. In addition, Vanco offers Give Plus Text and Give Plus Mobile. You can easily set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

For your convenience, the use of Vanco online payment system is now available for 2021. If you are unfamiliar with Vanco, please contact the Church Office if you need assistance setting up payments.

Thank you for your support of our St. George Greek Orthodox Church. God bless you and stay safe.

WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A STEWARD OF ST. GEORGE

Parishioners sometimes ask why it's necessary to become a Steward of St. George and submit an annual pledge form. By coming to Church and making an annual and weekly donations, some feel they've met their obligation. While donating funds is one aspect of Stewardship, being a true Steward involves so much more. It involves:

- **Transcendence:** Knowing and experiencing God's presence through prayer and participating in the liturgies and sacraments.
- **Significance:** Having a sense of purpose to do something meaningful in service to our fellow man. To "give back" to God some of the blessings we received from Him through service to others
- **Fellowship:** Connecting with others in meaningful relationships based on shared beliefs and values

Your Church, St. George, offers you a way to know God, gain Significance and enjoy Fellowship by:

- Administering to the spiritual needs of our community and offers ways to participate in the worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through liturgies, and sacraments (baptisms, wedding, funerals) and ministries that promote understanding our faith.
 - Spiritual Enrichment, Circle of Faith, Sunday School, Mustard Seed Book Store, the Book Corner
- Addressing the cultural and social needs of our community through ministries that bring us together to serve and enjoy each other.
 - Philoptochos, GOYA, The Agape Ministries (Hospitality, Baby Blankets, Weddings), Greek School, Kali Parea, St. George Socialites, Annual Festival, Taste of the Shore

Being a Steward of St. George, and submitting an annual pledge form, is an act of faith and commitment to our Church.

- The annual pledge form makes you think about your Church and re-examine your commitment to St. George – How important is the Church to me ? What can I do to help our Church fulfill the needs of our community ?
- Your financial commitment helps St. George offer the many spiritual, religious, cultural and social services our community wants and needs
- It enables you to have an active voice in the affairs of the Parish by participating in Parish Assemblies, voting on issues critical to the future of the Church and selecting the leadership of our community
- The pledge form provides information on our community's size and needs, helping the Parish Council to ensure critical needs are met and resources are available

The Parish Council and the Stewardship Committee invite you to participate fully in the life of St. George. There is no minimum Stewardship pledge. Give from your heart and to the best of your ability.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SERVICES**March–April–May 2021**

Orthos begins at 8:30 am | Divine Liturgy at 9:30 am
(Unless otherwise noted)

March

6	Sat		1st Saturday of Souls
7	Sun		Meat Fare Sunday
13	Sat		2nd Saturday of Souls
14	Sun		Cheese Fare Sunday
17	Wed	7 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
19	Fri	7 PM	1st Salutation Service
20	Sat		3rd Saturday of Souls
21	Sun		Sunday of Orthodoxy & Procession of Icons
24	Wed	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
25	Thurs		Divine Liturgy/ Annunciation
26	Fri	7PM	2nd Salutation Service
28	Sun		St. Gregory Palamas
31	Wed	7PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

April

2	Fri	7PM	3rd Salutation Service
4	Sun		Veneration of the Holy Cross
7	Wed	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
9	Fri	7PM	4th Salutation Service
11	Sun		St. John Climacus
14	Wed	7PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
16	Fri	7PM	Akathist Hymn
18	Sun		St. Mary of Egypt
21	Wed	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
24	Sat		Saturday of Lazarus
25	Sun		Palm Sunday
25	Sun	7PM	Bridegroom Service
26	Mon	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
26	Mon	7PM	Bridegroom Service
27	Tues	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
27	Tues	7PM	Bridegroom Service
28	Wed	8:30 AM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
28	Wed	4PM	Holy Unction
28	Wed	7PM	Bridegroom Service
			Last Supper/Unction Administered
29	Thurs	6AM	St. Basil/Unction Admin.
29	Thurs	7PM	Passion Gospels & Unction Administered
30	Fri	9AM	Royal Hours & Unction Administered

30	Fri	4PM	Apokathelosis & Unction Administered
30	Fri	7PM	Epttrophios Thrinos & Unction Administered

May

1	Sat	8:30 AM	St Basil/Unction Admin.
1	Sat	11PM	Cannon of the Resurrection & Liturgy
2	Sun	11AM	Pascha/Agape Service
3	Mon		St. George
9	Sun		Sunday of Thomas
16	Sun		Myrrh-bearing women
21	Fri		SS. Constantine & Helen
23	Sun		Sunday of the Paralytic
26	Wed		Mid-Pentecost
30	Sun		Samaritan Woman

**While we cannot all be together at St. George because of current restrictions, we ask that you join us for services via live stream on our website www.stgeorgeap.org or via our Facebook page www.facebook.com/stgeorgeap.org*

RECENT SACRAMENTS**Baptisms**

December 5, 2020	Antonia Ercolino
December 5, 2020	Sloan Dayoub
December 6, 2020	Charles Thomas Pappas
December 12, 2020	Georgia Maltabes
December 12, 2020	Panagiotis Maltabes
December 12, 2020	Kostandinos Tsigounis
December 27, 2020	Giannis Balias
January 30, 2021	Evalina Russomano
February 7, 2021	Siena Sourias

Weddings

February 6, 2021	Nicole Veas & Brandon Sanfilippo
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Deaths

December 28, 2020	Fotini Greberis
December 28, 2020	Costas Lymberis
January 4, 2021	Basilios Moraites
January 7, 2021	Roxani Sourvanos
January 15, 2021	Leonidas Doumas
January 17, 2021	Katherine LaBelle
<i>"For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ"</i>	
<i>- Galatians 3:27</i>	



Ladies Philoptochos Society

Dear Supporters,

I pray that you and your families are all well. What a year it has been! In March, COVID-19 hit us. Our Churches closed and we watched the Lenten services and all Holy Week and Pascha services from our homes. More than ten months later, while we are venturing out, things are not the same. The world has changed and **now, more than ever, people need help.**

It is our responsibility to help! And our Philoptochos has. Over the past year we have accomplished so much. Our Chapter, with 120 members (the same as 2019) has jumped over the obstacles that COVID brought, and has continued to do good works.

I thank all of you for supporting our activities. Please read below for our accomplishments during this difficult year. This has only been accomplished because of YOUR SUPPORT!

In 2020 – In the midst of a pandemic, our Chapter has:

- Held 3 Food Drives -giving thousands of items to local food banks
- Continued our social services donations (\$12,000 in 2020)
- Continued our annual obligations (\$7,700 in 2020) to National Philoptochos for worthy causes including Retired Clergy, Orthodox Christian Mission Center, National Sisterhood of Presbyteras, Unicef, International Orthodox Christian Charities, Autism support, Support a Mission Priest, Cancer assistance and other serious illnesses.
- Donated individual meals to many needy and ill parishioners
- Donated funds to assist with funerals
- Donated to Fulfill
- Donated to Archdiocese COVID-19 Relief Fund
- Reached out to all Philoptochos Members during lockdown
- Donated towards meals for local hospitals
- Provided Christmas gifts to local needy family
- Donated 22 Backpacks filled with school essentials to Ocean Township School District
- Held Drive-by Bake Sales in June, August, November and December –
- Held a Drive-by Souvlaki Sale in November

- Donated Gift Cards to Saint Basil Academy Children for graduation and Christmas
- Celebrated Father's Day with carnations at Church
- Donated to St. Michael's Home
- Honored Mrs. Angela Pappas as Mother of the Year
- Attended the National Philoptochos Virtual Convention
- Member, Dee Petrantis was honored by National Philoptochos Society with the Agape Award
- Held Drive-by Birthday Celebrations for Bess Peterson & Sophia Anest
- Held out-door Opa-cize class to gather together and exercise/socialize distantly
- Sponsored Artoclasia for Ss. Cosmas & Damianos
- Honored Veterans for Veteran's Day
- Provided wreaths and grave blankets for sale to parishioners
- Sent Pascha greetings to homebound and other members of community
- Donated funds towards Nativity Set
- Sponsored Tree-lighting event
- Celebrated "socially-distant" Holy Cross Day with basket and donation
- Continued tradition of parish Christmas Card
- Provided annual poinsettias for homebound and other members of community
- Gifted Epiphany House residents (mothers and children) with Christmas presents
- Celebrated "socially-distant" Vasilopita

I offer these accomplishments with deep gratitude and pride for the women who serve Philoptochos and to THANK YOU for your support.

I encourage and invite women and men to join our Chapter. Fill out the enclosed membership form and return it in the office. Your support is needed!

Please see our Palm Sunday Bake Sale order form in this issue. Our delicious pastries and food items help you and help us!

With love and respect,

Marissa P. Costidis, President – on behalf of the
Philoptochos Board

St. George Philoptochos Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale

April 25, 2021 *Following Divine Liturgy* (orders due April 15)



Item	Price	Number ordered	TOTAL
<u>HOMEMADE PASTERIES</u>			
Box of Paximadia	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Box of Koulourakia	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Box of Kourambiethes	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Box of 2 pieces of Baklava	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Small Monastery Tsoureki	\$ 14.00	_____	_____
Large Monastery Tsoureki	\$ 20.00	_____	_____
<u>FROZEN FOODS</u>			
Frozen Spanakopita Tray	\$ 23.00	_____	_____
Mixed Spanakopita and Tiropita Appetizers	\$ 20.00	_____	_____
Frozen Galaktoboureko with Syrup	\$ 23.00	_____	_____
Frozen Pastichio	\$ 30.00	_____	_____
<u>FRESH, UNCOOKED MEATS</u>			
Pork Souvlaki -25 Uncooked (refrigerated) sticks	\$ 43.00	_____	_____
Chicken Souvlaki -25 Uncooked (refrigerated) sticks	\$ 43.00	_____	_____
Lamb Souvlaki - 25 Uncooked (refrigerated) sticks	\$ 70.00	_____	_____
<u>SIDES</u>			
Tzatziki – 2 cup container	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
Pita Bread – bag of 10	\$ 5.00	_____	_____
TOTAL		_____	_____

Please place your order before, Thursday, April 15, 2021.

Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail this form with your check payable to St. George Philoptochos to Angie Swaroop -1 Quarry Place, Tinton Falls, NJ 07753. Credit cards are accepted and can be given over the phone. For additional questions call Angie (732) 693-7740 or email angieswaroop@gmail.com. Pick up will be available on Palm Sunday, after liturgy until 12:15pm. Drive to the circle in front of the Community Center and a Philoptochos Sister will meet you. Please remain in your car when picking up.

Saint George
Philoptochos



Chapter 1021

2021 MEMBERSHIP

Types of Membership:

As a member of the St. George Philoptochos Parish Chapter, you also retain membership in both the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos and the National Philoptochos.

Due to the financial obligations of our Parish Chapter, we ask that you consider pledging an amount equal to or greater than the minimum suggested of \$30.

Dues Breakdown:

\$15 of your dues is sent to National Philoptochos and **\$8** is sent to the Metropolis of New Jersey Philoptochos to fulfill our organizational commitments. The balance of your dues is what our local chapter counts on in order to operate our philanthropic budget. Please remember this when pledging.

The National Philoptochos by-laws state that there are three types of membership in a Parish chapter:

Full Membership: Women of the Greek Orthodox faith that are 18 years of age or older.

Associate & Supporting Membership: A non- Greek Orthodox woman married to a Greek Orthodox shall be eligible for Associate Membership. Men of Orthodox faith may be supporting members without the right to vote.

Honorary Membership: Honorary membership may be bestowed upon any person who has distinguished herself by service to the Ladies Philoptochos.

PHILOTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete this form and return with your membership contribution to:
St. George Philoptochos Society
1033 West Park Avenue, Ocean, NJ 07712

Name_____

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DUES AMOUNT

\$30 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other \$_____

(Minimum)

Type of Membership:_____

ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT

On December 1, we celebrated Iconography Sunday where Phase 2 Iconography was unveiled. We ask those of you who have pledged to fulfill your pledge, and those of you who have not yet contributed to join us. Below is a list of available icons. In addition, the Gold Leaf Program or any donation you would like to offer to the Community Icon are available. You can use the form below to contribute. We thank you for your generosity.

☐ GENERAL CONTRIBUTION

I would like to make a general contribution to the Iconography Project. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

\$50____ \$100____ \$500____ Other_____

☐ GOLD LEAF DONATION

Donate a gold leaf in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please list name(s) below:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

_____ \$250 each = \$ _____

☐ ICON NAMING OPPORTUNITY

To the right are remaining available icons. Please contact Father Andrew Eugenis through the church office, 732-775-2777

Please fill this out in its entirety, including signature and return with your payment, check made to:

St. George Greek Orthodox Church, "Iconography"

1033 West Park Ave, Ocean Township, NJ 07712.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Payment Type: ☐ Check # _____

☐ American Express ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

☐ Discover

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

CSV# _____

Name on credit card _____

Signature _____

LIST OF AVAILABLE ICONS FOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Crosses - Three Available	Dome Windows	\$2,000	each
Deacons - Parmenas, Prohoros	In the Altar	\$3,000	
Medallions- Gabriel and Michael	Below choir loft	\$5,000	each
Hierarchs - half each Fotios & Gregory	In the Altar	\$7,500	each
Prophets - Designated as the Community Icon	Dome	\$10,000	each
Seven Available - Daniel, Jonah, Solomon, Habakkuk, Gideon, Zephaniah/Sophonias, Ekzekiel			
Sts, Rafael, Nicholas, & Irene	Left of Choir Loft	\$10,000	
St Katerina	Right of Choir Loft	\$10,000	
St Antonios	Behind Chanter	\$12,500	
Scenes of Life of St George			
One available	Under the choir loft	\$20,000	
Archangel Michael	In the altar	\$20,000	
Artoforio Amnos tou Theo	In the altar	\$25,000	
Diakonikon	In the altar	\$25,000	
Birth of Christ	Arch over the solea	\$65,000	
Pentecost	Arch over the solea	\$65,000	
Crucifixion	Right wall	\$75,000	





This winter has been a busy one! GOYAns have been blessed with many opportunities to reach out to our community, beginning with some much loved caroling. Although we could not reach everyone, we did our very best to spread Christmas cheer while taking into consideration COVID safety measures. GOYAns were also able to celebrate the magic of Christmas by delivering the Giving Tree gifts donated by our parishioners. Your gifts brought so much joy to these families. We are grateful to all of you who embrace the true meaning of Christmas and give so generously.

GOYA started the New Year with new ideas. In January, we launched the Adopt a Yiayia and Pappou program. GOYAns are paired with interested members of the community to have a weekly chat. These weekly conversations are building relationships between us GOYAns and the older members of our community. Thank you to all who are participating in this new program! Soon, GOYA will be reaching out to the entire community to see if anyone else is interested. With the holidays behind us, we welcome February with an open heart. GOYA plans on sending Valentine's Day wishes and treats to the families staying at the Greek Division of the Ronald McDonald House in New York. We hope to bring smiles and comfort to those who need it most.

GOYA is always looking for ways to get involved in our community. COVID has presented us with challenges, but also new opportunities. Looking ahead, we hope to be participating in the Delaware Valley Sights and Sounds. This event may be slightly different this year, but it will still be a fun experience for all. Additionally, we plan to compete in the GOYA Olympics, but unfortunately, GOYAns will be unable to stay the night at Monmouth University. We hope everyone is well and staying safe and healthy during these times.

GOYA President Nicholas Chatzopoulos



For the foreseeable future, we will continue to have students PK-6 fully virtual and 7th-12th alternating weeks in person and virtual. I thank all the parents and students who have had patience with us and continued to be dedicated to the spiritual growth of their students. Once again, I must thank the teachers for their dedication and for taking over during my personal problems. If you and your family would like some more religious education resources, please look to the Sunday School Website for links to various resources for students of all ages.

Please reach out to your individual teachers, Tom Georges, or Paul Koutouzakis for more information.

Tom Georges:

tgeorges.email@gmail.com

Paul Koutouzakis:

pkoutou29@gmail.com

– Lenten Retreat –

SAVE THE DATE!

See flyer on page 21.



Young Adult League

YAL is greatly looking forward to growing our group in 2021, to continue serving the Lord and supporting each other on our walk of faith to further our relationship with Christ.

We initiated bi-weekly **prayer calls** via Zoom. Every other Wednesday, we gather to praise our Lord and continually ask Him for strength in His loving mercy. These calls have included prayers such as Small Compline, Paraklesis, and Akathist.

We continued our **book study** with reading *Toolkit for Spiritual Growth: A Practical Guide to Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving* by Fr. Evan Armatas. We met via Zoom on February 18th to discuss all we learned about these foundational aspects of our faith in preparation for Great Lent. We will continue our book study with meditations for Great Lent.

This year we are very excited for our **Faith WITH Works Initiative**. Over the course of the entire year, we will be doing service for our community by putting Matthew 25:35 into action ("for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.." etc.). We will be serving each group listed by Christ for a two month period. We began with addressing the hungry in January and February. We held a social distanced food drive and volunteered our time at Fulfill. Additionally, we made a donation to IOCC towards their Agriculture and Food Security initiatives. This supported their incredible work not only providing food to those in need, but assisting agricultural practices for long-term solutions to battling hunger.

Anyone with interest in joining our group or attending our events, please email us at jerseyshoreYAL@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support!

Light A Candle...Say A Prayer



During these times, it is difficult not to be able to physically attend church and share in the communion of our St. George Greek Orthodox Church. One of the first things we generally do when entering our church is to light a candle and say a prayer. Our prayers can be for our personal needs or for those of our families and friends. They can also be for the memory of a loved one, for protection and safety or as a prayer of thanksgiving. As a way to stay connected to our services, please "light a candle...and say a prayer," by visiting our webpage <https://saintgeorgenj.square.site/>. You may also contact



the Church office to light a candle for you at every service. Please be sure to include your prayer so that it may be read by Father Andrew. A schedule of upcoming services can be found on page 6. We ask that you please submit your candle requests no later than 5 pm each Friday for that weekend's services. Remember to pray at home for those who have been affected by the virus, the first responders and those on the front lines. And continue to prayerfully keep our St. George community in your prayers and continue to give to the best of your ability. We will continue to pray for you and your families and the healing of our world by His Grace.



AHEPA NEWS CORNER

Thomas A. Edison Chapter, 287 – Ocean, NJ

“The Mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility and Family and Individual Excellence”.

The Order of AHEPA was honored to have the NJ District 5 Lodge attend the installation of new officers. George Perentesis was installed as President; Arthur Pappaylion as Vice President; Dimitris Geaneas as Secretary; and Nick Billows as Treasurer. We wish to thank all the previous officers: Arthur Pappaylion, George Perentesis, Kosta Linardakis, and Aris Pappageorge, who worked diligently in promoting our chapter's mission and fund-raising activities.

With the installation of a new executive board, we have begun planning activities for the upcoming year. A Spring golf tournament is now in the planning stages with Kosta Linardakis as chairman.

On February 28th at 6pm our AHEPA chapter will be sponsoring a Comedy Hour with “Basile the Comedian” that is going to be a live virtual interactive event. Tickets are \$25.00. For more information contact George Moutis. This event will assist our AHEPA Scholarships and other charitable endeavors. A flyer is available with more information. In May, we are looking forward to having a Souvlaki Scholarship Fundraiser, if restrictions for Covid-19 are lifted.

On September 25th, our chapter will be sponsoring a “Cigar Night” on our premises. We are now in the planning stages looking for support and volunteers for this event. Brother Nick Billows is chairing this event. Those interested, please notify brother Nick.

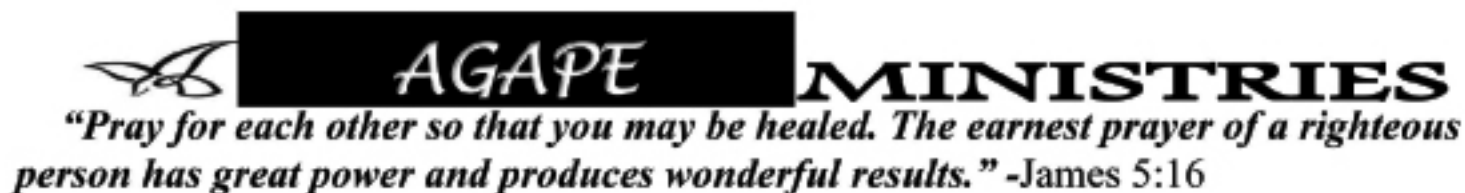
Our AHEPA Chapter has donated to the following Philanthropic organizations and causes. In June we presented five scholarships to worthy high school students, whose parents are members of our AHEPA family. We also donated to St. Basils, the Christmas Nativity, AHEPA Cares, AHEPA Disaster Relief in California, Cancer Research and St. George Iconography. AHEPA looks forward to continuing their mission within our community.



Instillation of the new officers of our AHEPA Chapter

**Ordination to the Diaconate: Emanuel G. Tsarnas, Esq.
Laying on of Hands: His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros
Sunday, January 31, 2021**





Fight the good fight of the faith;
 take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made the
 good confession in the presence of many witnesses --- 1 Timothy 6:12

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Vicki Kamaratos - vassilia71@aol.com 732-539-6831

As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace – 1 Peter 4:10
AGAPE is Christian love.....In Action. It never stops doing good

Vicki Kamaratos - vassilia71@aol.com 732-539-6831

40 Day Blessing:	Colleen Pardenek	kalliep19@aol.com
Baptism:	Vicki Kamaratos	vassilia71@aol.com
Wedding:	Tasi Pappaylion	tasipappaylion@gmail.com
New Hope:	Antonia Lyons	antonia.lyons16@gmail.com
Grief Support Group		
Funeral Group:	Sophia Anest	sophiaharry@optonline.net
Welcome:	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
St. George Guides:	Arthur Pappaylion	a.pappaylion@gmail.com
Faithful Hands:	Bea Paparsenos	beapap@live.com
Knit& Crochet		
Hospitality Ministry	Vicki Kamaratos	vassilia71@aol.com
Coffee Hour Helpers	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
Environmental Stewardship	Stella Fotopoulos	s.fotopoulos@att.net
& Protection Ministry	Christina Barrows	celiop99@me.com
St. George Newlyweds:	Angela Koumoutsos	fiore88@aol.com
Newcomers & Visitors:	Antonia Lyons	antonia.lyons16@gmail.com

Join a group or start another. Share what you love to do with others!

Visit us at www.stgeorgeap.org/agape

DAILY GREAT LENT READINGS for FAMILIES AND ADULTS

Pilgrimage to Pascha - A Daily Devotional for Great Lent

by Archpriest Steven John Belonick

\$10 each

Tending the Garden of Our Hearts: Daily Lenten Meditations for Families

by Elissa Bjeletich and Kristina Wenger

\$10

**Meditations for Great Lent: Reflections on the Triodion*

by Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou

\$10

**Meditations for Holy Week: Dying and Rising with Christ*

by Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou

\$10

**Both books purchased together \$15 (YAL Book Study)*

The Road Back To Christ: Reflections on Lent, Holy Week and The Resurrection (through Pentecost)

by Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis

\$20

Visit the St. George Mustard Seed Bookstore following Divine Liturgy to pick one up!

PRAYER and LITURGY SERVICE BOOKS

The Akathist Hymn (Salutations)

~ Friday Evenings

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

~ Wednesday morning/evening alternating and Holy Week

St. John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy \$20

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Every Tuesday ~ BIBLE STUDY ~ The Book of Acts ~ 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Every Second and Fourth Thursday of the Month
SHARING OUR FAITH BOOK CORNER
Thinking Orthodox by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou, Ph.D
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

email Teri Lalli for zoom access
lalliptds@comcast.net

ST. GEORGE BIBLE STUDY

Every Tuesday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm via Zoom

March 2nd ~ Acts Chapter 4

March 9th ~ Acts Chapter 5

March 16th ~ Acts Chapter 6

March 23rd ~ Acts Chapter 7

March 30th ~ Acts Chapter 8

April 6th ~ Acts Chapter 9

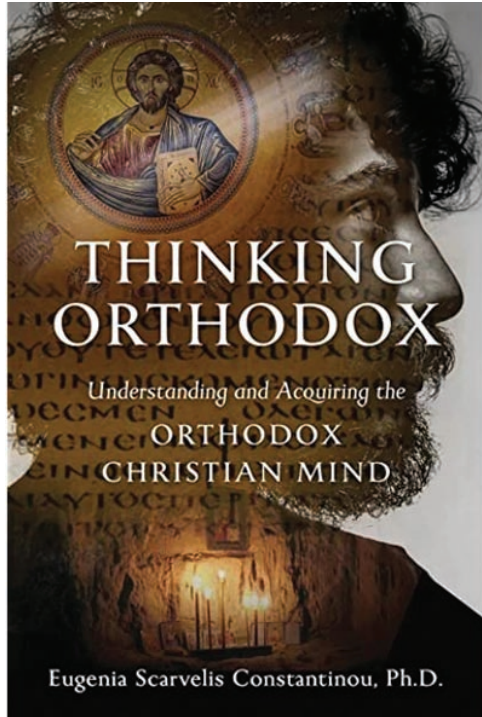
April 13th ~ Acts Chapter 10

April 20th ~ Acts Chapter 11

April 27th ~ NO Bible Study
HOLY WEEK

The Book of Acts
Through August 24, 2021

SHARING OUR FAITH BOOK CORNER 2021



***THINKING ORTHODOX,
Understanding and Acquiring the
Orthodox Christian Mind
by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou, Ph.D.***

Every other Thursday

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

via zoom

Thursday, March 11th 7:00 PM ~ Chapters 5 - 7 (84 pages)

Thursday, March 25th 7:00 PM ~ Chapters 8 - 10 (73 pages)

Thursday, April 8th 7:00 PM ~ Chapters 11-14 (57 pages)

Thursday, April 22nd 7:00 PM ~ Chapters 15 -16 (75 pages)

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT MINISTRIES

❖ Circle of Faith

This internet ministry provides emails of podcasts, videos and daily readings to educate and deepen our understanding of our journey to Orthodoxy.

Leader: Barbara Terlecsky bterlecsky@aol.com

❖ Fellowship in Prayer

This ministry prays continually for the ill, believing in God's Will, compassion and love. Please inform us if someone is in need of prayer. First names are posted in the Sunday bulletin; please add them to your daily prayer life.

Leader: George Moutis gmoutis@scinj.com

❖ Spiritual Growth

This ministry provides many enlightening and educational programs throughout the year in harmony with the liturgical cycle helping participants to come to a deeper understanding of the Orthodox Faith.

Priest: Father Andrew Eugenis
frandrew@stgeorgeap.org

❖ Sharing Our Faith Book Corner

This ministry conducts sessions to discuss books about the Orthodox Faith to enrich understanding of our lives through the lens of the Church.

Leader: Teri Lalli lalliPTDS@comcast.net

❖ The Mustard Seed Book Store

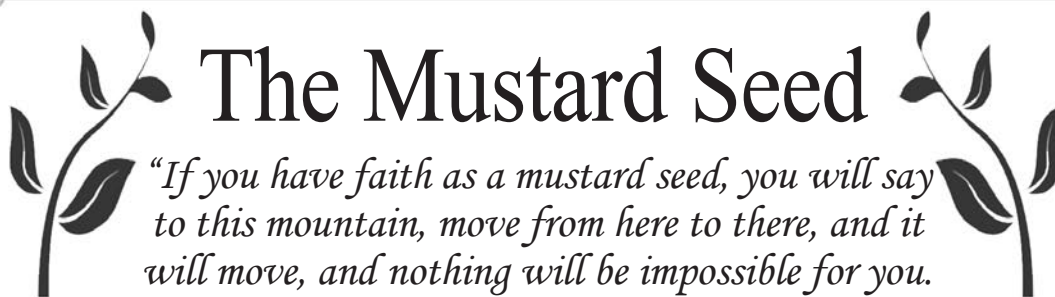
The new book store will be open on Sundays during Coffee Hour stocked with a variety of books about Orthodoxy, liturgical music CD's, icons and other religious items.

Leader: Teri Lalli lalliPTDS@comcast.net

❖ Bible Study

A weekly chapter by chapter, in-depth review and discussion of the scriptures with spiritual direction by Fr. Andrew.

Facilitator: Teri Lalli



"If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, move from here to there, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20

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Lenten Retreat

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 10, 2021



Our guest speaker

Rev. Dr. Nicholas G. Louh

St. George Greek
Orthodox Church

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(Schedule will include refreshment break)

Join us for this in-person lenten retreat

Registration information & final schedule coming soon

All CDC guidelines will be followed

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Laying on of Hands: His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros
Sunday, January 31, 2021**

