

SAINT SOPHIA

Axiologa

"worth mentioning"



JUNE 30, 2019

Sunday of the Synaxis of the Twelve Holy Apostles

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Saint Sophia Cathedral
1324 S. Normandie Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90006

Office: 323.737.2424
www.saintsophia.org/bulletin

When you write your will or update it, won't you please remember Saint Sophia Cathedral? Such a gift will live forever as our church ministers to our spiritual needs. It's an investment in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

MINISTRY NEWS

1. **Sunday, July 28:** National Philoptochos Initiative Project

BAPTISMAL FONT

Dear Friends,

We have been blessed to have many adults come forth ready to be baptized after attending our church services.

Saint Sophia Cathedral is asking for your contribution to fund the installation of an Adult Baptismal Font in our Cathedral. Your generosity will help serve the growing needs of our faith and congregation and you will play an integral and vital role in the life of our extended Saint Sophia family.

You may contribute by sending a check to the church or making a donation online <https://saintsophia.org/donate-payment/>

Thank you and may God bless you!

CAR NEEDED FOR WORK

A parishioner is in need of a working used car. A car can be donated to Saint Sophia Cathedral and the church will issue a tax receipt for your gift. Thank you for your generosity.

40 DAYS MEMORIAL SERVICE

Please join our memorial service on July 28 for Sirio Tonelli.



**THE HOLY LAND 2019
WITH FATHER JOHN**

LEAVE LA, DEC. 12TH – RETURN LA, DEC. 22ND



Trip Cost \$4575 pp/double occupancy
Reserve Spot by August 26th, \$1145
Final Payment by September 20th, \$3430
Nonrefundable as of October 11th
Single Supplement Available Upon Request

Payments can be made through Saint Sophia's website

Go to "Make a Donation." Go to "Contribution."

Go to "General Donation."

Enter amount. Click the "Make a Donation" button*.

*There is an area that says "Additional Notes" type in Holy Land Trip.

For questions you may contact Jessica at secretary@saintsophia.org
or call 323-737-2424 ext 103

DETAILS

This is an all-inclusive trip to Israel. Airfare, accommodations, breakfast and dinner, all transfers, expertly guided sightseeing tours, entry fees will be covered.

Dec 12 (Thursday) Depart Los Angeles

Dec 13 (Friday) Arrival to the Holy Land, Jaffa / Tel Aviv

Dec 14 (Saturday) Caesarea / Haifa / Stella Maris/ Cana / Tiberias

Dec 15 (Sunday) Sea of Galilee / Tabgha / Capernaum / Mount of Beatitudes Tiberias

Dec 16 (Monday) Nazareth / Mt Tabor

Dec 17 (Tuesday) Sebastya / Jacob's Well / Jerusalem

Dec 18 (Wednesday) The Old City of Jerusalem / Western Wall

Dec 19 (Thursday) Bethlehem / Mar Saba / Ein Karem

Dec 20 (Friday) Mt. Olives / Mt Zion

Dec. 21 (Saturday) Jordan River Baptismal Site, Jericho, Dead Sea, Wadi Kelt, Jerusalem

Dec 22 (Sunday) Transfer to Airport

Trip Organized by Former Parish Council President, Maria Baltazzi.

PHILOPTOCHOS VIP NEWS

Thank you to all who participated in the events that took place over the past half year. Last week we had the half year event, a trip to Harrah Casino. It was very well attended and everyone had a wonderful time.

As you know there will be no meetings or events during the months of July and August so everyone can enjoy the summer with family and friends.

I would also like to apologize for not having a board meeting or event for the month of September, due to several board members being out of town. But, we will have a wonderful event scheduled for the month of October.

We are very pleased to announce that we have obtained the right to show the Movie “Our Own Maria Callas”. Courtesy of Mr. Vasilis Papoutsis

Date is Thursday, October 24, 2019 in the Maniatakos Pavilion at 11:30 am. There will be luncheon served and then the movie. The admission for VIP members will be free of charge, non-member is \$10.00 The movie is a documentary of the mythical world of soprano Maria Callas. It is directed by Babis Tsokas, sponsored by Mesiniaki Amfiktyonia with hundreds of volunteers while it was filmed in Meligala, Kalamata, Tripoli, Athens, New York City, Verona, Milano, Paris and the Island of Scorpio. Since space is limited, reservations are a must. Please call Vivi Demopoulos at 310-215-3130 or Mary Kezios at 562-923-7110

Hope to see you all at this event. Happy Summer to ALL.

In His service

Angela Ananias, VIP president.

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Even though it's summer, and people are out of school and heading off on vacations, Philoptochos is never on vacation. We are always here to help no matter what. If you ever know of anyone who needs us, please call the church office and leave a message for us. Should you ever need to talk with me or ask me a question, feel free to grab me at church. I'm always willing to meet and listen.

Our first project is coming up very quickly and here it is:

We will be offering an Artoklasia on Sunday, September 1 from the Philoptochos Society for the beginning of the ecclesiastical year.

The Metropolis Philoptochos Retreat will take place at Saint Nicholas Ranch from September 13 - 15. Details will be coming from the Metropolis soon. If you would like to attend please let me know.

At this time, we have planned our first General Assembly of the year for Sunday, September 29 immediately after church in the Maniatakos Pavilion. We hope to have a wonderful and fun start to the new church year! Please come and attend a meeting - get involved - bring your ideas to our attention - and make new friends. We have a great time working together. The love and friendships we share are with us forever.

Our L.A. Greek Fest is coming up in October, on the 4th, 5th and 6th. The theme this year is "Mediterranean Cuisine". I hope you will find some time to come and volunteer in the Pastry Booth for a couple of hours over the weekend. We always need workers to serve and package pastries, talk and laugh!

With love in Christ's service, Virginia Noyes



Magnolia Pandas

Join us for a Back-to-School Burger Lunch

Sunday, July 28 After Liturgy
Cost: School Supplies or donation
to our adopted school

Support Magnolia Elementary School!

As part of Philoptochos' national campaign to support education, the Saint Sophia Philoptochos Society will be donating back-to-school supplies to Magnolia Avenue Elementary School in the Pico Union neighborhood.

We welcome your participation and in return, you'll enjoy a delicious hamburger lunch – with all the trimmings – plus dessert!

School supplies needed:

- Spiral bound or hard bound wide-rule paper notebooks
- Art supplies – glue sticks, colored tissue paper, markers,
- crayons, construction paper, scissors, yarn, stickers, pencils
- Plastic sheet protectors
- Plastic containers -- with or without lids and any size – for storing books

Join Philoptochos for lunch and support the scholastic needs of the *Magnolia Pandas!*

Note: In lieu of school supplies, we will also accept cash or check donations





Operation Christmas Child donation idea of the month



Clothing Items

July



School Supplies

August

"One of my favorites in my shoebox was white socks because in the orphanage you get bad quality socks that always stink and have holes in them."—Timur, Central Asia

One child in Grenada was delighted to find his shoebox packed with underwear in his exact size. His family was so poor that they could not afford to buy this for him.

"My favorite items in my shoebox were school supplies. They were really important to me because it meant I could go to school."

—Luis, Panama

Saint Sophia Sunday School, the Hellenic Academy, the Saint Sophia Dance Program and the Saint Sophia Philoptochos Society are collaborating this year to assemble Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. While this has been a project we have been supporting for over 10 years, it is the first time that we are coordinating our ministries to make this a bigger and better project. This year's goal is to fill 300 boxes. Already this year we have collected hats, gloves, scarves, hair accessories, personal care/hygiene items, small stuffed toys, books and so much more, but we are not anywhere near our goal.

July and August focus is on Clothing Items and School Supplies. Suggested items to donate are t-shirts, pants, skirts, shorts, sundresses, underwear, shoes, socks, pajamas, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, colored pencils, index cards, small manual pencil sharpener, erasers, solar-powered

continued

calculators, notebooks, scissors, ruler, protractor, glue stick (not liquid glue) scotch tape, etc. Remember, the boxes are assembled for either a boy or a girl and for ages 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14.

In October, to celebrate the National Philoptochos Make A Difference Day, we will be hosting a "Pack-A-Box" party for any and all parishioners to join us in completing this wonderful diakonia project. Event details will be in the September Herald.

Saint Sophia Sunday School and Philoptochos joint project

Do you like making things? Have you always wanted to learn how to crochet, knit or sew but never had the time? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO LEARN A NEW SKILL OR USE YOUR TALENT TO BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S DAY!

This summer we are meeting after church at 12:30pm on select Sundays to make simple craft items to include handmade gifts with our Operation Christmas Child boxes this fall. All skill levels are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Eleni Yokas at stsophiasundayschool@gmail.com.

July 7th – Friendship Bracelets – Meeting Room near Sunday School office

July 21st – Hand Puppets – Meeting Room near Sunday School office

August 4th – Stick Puppets with coloring story books - Meeting Room near Sunday School office

August 11th – Felt Dolls - Meeting Room near Sunday School office

August 25th – Knitted/Crocheted Scarves - Meeting Room near Sunday School office

Donations of yarn and fabrics, knitting needles or crochet hooks are very welcome.

Ask Eleni Yokas if you are unsure.

YAL CONFERENCE

“Proclaim” is the theme for the 2019 Young Adult League Conference being hosted by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco from August 29 – September 2, 2019 at the Hyatt Long Beach. This will be a weekend filled with opportunities for fellowship, friendship, faith, and service. Young Adults who have completed high school and are at least 18 years of age through age 35 years old are invited to attend this inspirational weekend.

For more information, visit www.sanfran.goarch.org/events

What’s The Opposite of Love?

Fr. Barnabas Powell

What do you think is the opposite of love? The easy answer is hate but that isn’t even close. Because hate takes attention and focus and (usually) preoccupation with the object of your hate.

And the truth is love takes the same. To love something or someone takes attention, focus, and even preoccupation with the object of your love. You remember the first time you “fell” in love (by the way, I really dislike that phrase “fell in love” as if it were beyond my control or some spell was put on me!) all you wanted to do was be around the person you loved. There has never been a big brother or big sister that doesn’t remember the aggravating little brother or sister that always wanted to follow them around. They loved their bigger sibling and they wanted to do everything they did.

No, the opposite of love isn’t hate. These two emotions are too similar to be opposites. The opposite of love is indifference. But there are consequences to this dismissive indifference, especially when this thoughtlessness has as its object our relationship to God.

Look at Romans 1:28-32; 2:1-9: Brethren, since the ungodly did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a base mind and to improper conduct. They were filled with all manner of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity, they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God’s decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only do them but approve those who practice them. Therefore you have no excuse, O man, whoever you are, when you

judge another; for in passing judgment upon him you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who do such things. Do you suppose, O man, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you presume upon the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not know that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But by your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. For he will render to every man according to his works; to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are factious and do not obey the truth, but obey wickedness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek.

What is true of a society that forgets God is also true of a person who forgets God. Every time you are forgetful of God in your life, you head toward darkness and self-centered living. So, the remedy of this sad and dangerous pattern of behavior is to do those things that help you remember God. Notice Paul says "God gave them up to a base mind..." (Romans 1:28) God isn't interested in robots or slaves. He calls us not merely to obey Him or just fear Him. No, He invites us to a much deeper and a much more involved choice of entering into a loving relationship with Him. And this is because He knows that all the other motivations of acknowledging God are always too weak to last a lifetime. Only love is strong enough to affect the really necessary transformation of my heart to a true and fitting companion for God forever.

And only the committed rehearsal on a regular basis of God's "riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience" will lead you to the hard work of repentance to fight the tug of indifference toward the Spirit-Filled life of a faithful Christian. Today, what are the disciplines in your life that allow you to remember God moment by moment? Is your life indifferent to God and His Church? Thankfully, you don't have to depend on your imagination for these spiritual tools that lead to love. Centuries of wisdom, insight, and Spirit-inspired direction are immediately available to you right now through the wise pattern of worship and prayers in the Church all meant to make you Orthodox on Purpose!

The Mission of Saint Sophia Cathedral

1. *Proclaim and teach the Gospel according to the Orthodox Christian Faith*
2. *Sanctify and enhance the spiritual life of the faithful through Orthodox Christian worship.*
3. *Receive persons into the Church through instruction, baptism and/or chrismation.*

Orthodox Calendar

JULY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	✝ 3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	✝ 5 Observance Independence Day Office Closed	6
7 3 rd Sunday of St. Mathew 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 Divine Liturgy	8	9	✝ 10	11	✝ 12	13
14 Holy Fathers of the 4 th Ecumenical Council 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 Divine Liturgy	15	16	🍇 17	18	✝ 19	20
21 5 th Sunday of St. Mathew 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 Divine Liturgy	22	23	✝ 24	25	🍇 26	27 Panteleimon the Great Martyr and Healer 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy
28 6 th Sunday of St. Mathew 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 Divine Liturgy	29	30	✝ 31			
		Strict Fast ✝	Fish Allowed 🐟	Wine and Oil Allowed 🍇	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed 🥚	Fast Free