

SAINT SOPHIA

*Axiologa*

*"worth mentioning"*



**DECEMBER 22, 2019**

*Sunday before Nativity*

## **FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

George E. Preonas, President; Gig Kyriacou, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President; Jim Zaferis; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President; Constantine M. Boukidis, Secretary; Tina Callas, Treasurer

### **MEMBERS**

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### **MEMBERS**

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### **BOARD OF AUDITORS:**

Jim Boltinghouse, Nicholas Manolelis, Michele Panagiota Olivar

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

Office: 323.737.2424  
[www.saintsophia.org/bulletin](http://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. **January 5:** Vasilopita

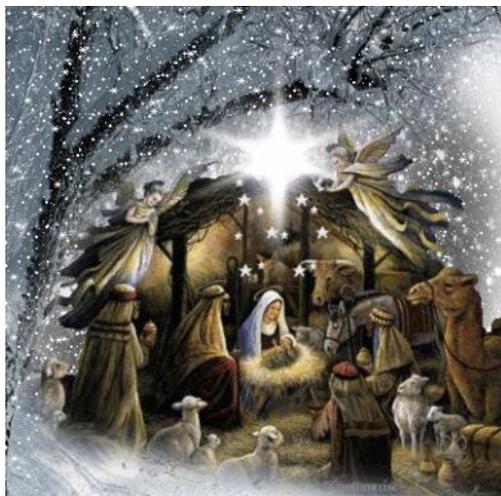
## **BIBLE FAITH STUDIES**

Fr. John Bakas and Fr. Christopher Kolentsas will conduct community Bible & Faith Studies on Sunday's after the Divine Liturgy. We will meet immediately at 12 pm in the Chapel. For those who are planning to attend, coffee will be available outside the chapel for you to enjoy during bible studies.

It is imperative that we all grow in the Faith. All are welcome. Bring your Bible and be prepared to study Sunday's Epistle Reading. Remember that Faith comes through understanding.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE BOOKSTORE**

Our fabulous Saint Sophia Bookstore is in need of volunteers who are enthusiastically passionate about books. If you're willing to offer your support and assistance please contact Bill Striglos or Dean Peratsakis via email at [wstriglos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wstriglos@sbcglobal.net) or [dotos@msn.com](mailto:dotos@msn.com) or call (213) 804-1283. Thank you.





## **Saint Sophia Cathedral Stewardship Drive**

Goal:

**\$750,000**

Pledged and Paid:

**\$438, 000**

Percentage of goal to date:

**58.4%**

**We Cordially Invite the Parish Families to  
fill up a Stewardship Card**

It is important to plan your donation to help in the parish ministries. The donations made to the parish are tax deductible and is useful for your yearly tax returns. Also, sometimes there is a need of a letter for legal matters and if you are not a steward in good standing there are no informational facts available. For more information please visit the parish office or talk to a parish council member during coffee hour.

# GLENDI 2020

SUPPORT THE SAINT SOPHIA  
DANCE PROGRAM

**Saturday February 8th, 2020**

RSVP by January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to  
[st.sophia.folkdance@gmail.com](mailto:st.sophia.folkdance@gmail.com)

Featuring: **DIESI**

playing traditional music  
from all over Greece.



**Cocktails/Appetizers: 6:00pm**

Price: \$65 - Adult | \$40 - Dancers & Kids under 12, \$20 after 9:00pm

Silent Auction with great items to help support the dance program

St sophia Maniatakos Hall 1324 S Normandie Ave.

## **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**

**OH HOLY NIGHT:** As we enter this time of for us to celebrate our faith, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is also time to reach out to those less fortunate. As we give thanks to God for our blessings, we must remember there are so many who are alone, sick and in despair.

Everyone needs love - everyone needs friends. Sometimes all a person needs is to know that someone is there who cares about them and wants to help. A child was born - a bright star hung over a manger - and Wise Men brought gifts. We haven't forgotten that night down through the centuries. We buy gifts for our family and friends. We forget no one. All the stockings are filled except one - one for the child born in a manger. It's his birthday we're celebrating. Let us ask ourselves what he would want and then each put in his share. Loving kindness - warm hearts - a stretched out hand of tolerance and good will toward men.

**THANK YOU** everyone for the wonderful donations of cookies! We had all types of lovely cookies to share. It was a great evening! Special thank you to Jim Kollias and Chris Yokas for all their work and to the members of the choir! It was a magnificent performance! Such a spiritual way to start the Christmas season!! I also must thank Olga Jordan and Judie Christopoulos for decorating the tables. Everything looked so festive in red! Thank you also to John Kopatsis, Alejandra and Josephina for all their help! Thank you one and all!

**PROJECT CHRISTMAS CHEER:** We are spreading Christmas cheer to those who are not able to participate in church this holiday season. Please send us your loved ones name and address where they are, on or before December 15th. The Sunshine Committee will be delivering holiday plants to those who are at home, in hospitals and senior living

## **PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS**

facilities. We want each of our loved ones to know how much we miss them, we need them and we love them! Volunteers are welcome to help with the distribution of these beautiful holiday plants. We will have a table set up in the Maniatakos Fellowship Hall /foyer after church on December 15th for pick-up and delivery. Please feel free to contact Elaine Bissias by email at [Naeisekala@hotmail.com](mailto:Naeisekala@hotmail.com) or text her at (818) 434-6047. As we bless others our prayers will be answered.

**ANGEL TREE:** There are still some tags on the Angel Tree for the families from the East Los Angeles Women's Shelter that we are helping with Christmas. If you select a tag, please bring the item back to the hall on or before December 22. Have it wrapped and tape the tag onto the gift so we know what it is.

**VASILOPITA** Sunday will be on January 5, 2020! Please plan to stay after church, come into the hall and let's all join together for the beginning of the New Year. Committee chairmen Diane and Elaine Bissias and Katrina Beers are planning a lovely time for all of us.

Don't forget nominations for Mother of the Year are due at the end of this month! Please be sure you have your letter to us by December 31 if you are making a nomination.

Do what you can with what you have, where you are. The beauty of life does not depend on how happy you are but how happy others can be because of you. "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others remains forever." I'm looking forward to the New Year and the work ahead of us. Our philanthropic work for those who need us never ends.

With love in Christ's service, Virginia Noyes

SAINT SOPHIA PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

*“Mother of the Year”*

Nomination Form

The Mother of the Year is selected by the Saint Sophia Philoptochos Society Board of Directors and honored at the Mother’s Day Luncheon and Fashion Show in May. Nominations are accepted until December 31st.

Nomination Requirements and Selection Criteria Listed by Priority:

1. Must be a member of Saint Sophia Philoptochos Society.
2. Must be a member of Saint Sophia Cathedral in good standing.
3. A devoted volunteer to philanthropy within Philoptochos, who exemplifies and personifies its ideals and purposes.
4. A devoted volunteer and a dedicated supporter of our Church and our Community.

NOMINEE’S NAME:

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Volunteer Service within Philoptochos:

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Volunteer Service to Church and Community:

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(You may use an additional separate sheet to describe your reasons for this nomination, if necessary)

Name of person submitting nomination:

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*Please return this form in a sealed envelope to:*

Saint Sophia Philoptochos Society

1324 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90006

**Deadline: DECEMBER 31, 2019**

"A STIRRING, LYRICAL STORY  
ABOUT THINGS THAT TOUCH  
AND TEST OUR HUMAN CORE...  
THE LADY OF RO WILL BREAK  
AND MEND YOUR HEART."



CAP UCLA IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE UCLA STAVROS  
NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CENTER FOR THE STUDY  
OF HELLENIC CULTURE PRESENTS

## **FOTINI BAXEVANI: THE LADY OF RO**

WRITTEN BY GIANNI SKARAGAS  
DIRECTED BY KATERINA BERDEKA

FRI-SAT, JAN 31-FEB 1, 2020 @ 8 PM  
FREUD PLAYHOUSE, UCLA

*The Lady of Ro* is inspired by the life of Despina Achladioti, the Greek widow known as the Lady of Ro after the name of the deserted island where she took refuge during the two World Wars. When Greece and Turkey went to war over Cyprus in the mid-1970s, Achladioti became a hero and folk legend for her persistence in raising the Greek flag on the island. *The Lady of Ro* examines what happens to the dreams we hold close during war time, the ties that bind daughters and mothers, husbands and wives, folk legends and madwomen to one another and to the places they call home.

*Funds provided by Tina and George Kolovas, Deborah Irmaz, and Daphne Valentina*

For tickets:

<https://oss.ticketmaster.com/aps/capucla/EN/link/promotion/home/b1f9176234e96cc3e680d3febde04783b396af7>

  
HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR GREEKS ABROAD

SAINT SOPHIA WINTER CAMP 2019

# Saint Sophia Winter Camp 2019

## Calling all Campers !!

### Apply online now !!

**One week only**  
Sunday, December 29 -  
Wednesday, January 1, 2020

**Thousand Pines Camp**  
359 Thousand Pines Road  
Crestline, CA 92325  
thousandpines.com



Southern California's Favorite Camp !!  
and first choice for fun !!



 [facebook.com/SaintSophiaCamp](https://facebook.com/SaintSophiaCamp)

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[SaintSophiaCamp.org](http://SaintSophiaCamp.org)

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

The incomprehensible and inexplicable Nativity of Christ came to pass when Herod the Great was reigning in Judea; the latter was an Ascalonite on his father's side and an Idumean on his mother's. He was in every way foreign to the royal line of David; rather, he had received his authority from the Roman emperors, and had ruled tyrannically over the Jewish people for some thirty-three years. The tribe of Judah, which had reigned of old, was deprived of its rights and stripped of all rule and authority. Such was the condition of the Jews when the awaited Messiah was born, and truly thus was fulfilled the prophecy which the Patriarch Jacob had spoken 1,807 years before: "A ruler shall not fail from Judah, nor a prince from his loins, until there come the things stored up for him; and he is the expectation of the nations" (Gen.49:10).

Thus, our Saviour was born in Bethlehem, a city of Judea, whither Joseph had come from Nazareth of Galilee, taking Mary his betrothed, who was great with child, that, according to the decree issued in those days by the Emperor Augustus, they might be registered in the census of those subject to Rome. Therefore, when the time came for the Virgin to give birth, and since because of the great multitude there was no place in the inn, the Virgin's circumstance constrained them to enter a cave which was near Bethlehem. Having as shelter a stable of irrational beasts, she gave birth there, and swaddled the Infant and laid Him in the manger (Luke 2:1-7). From this, the tradition has come down to us that when Christ was born He lay between two animals, an ox and an ass, that the words of the Prophets might be fulfilled: "Between two living creatures shalt Thou be known" (Abbacum 3:2), and "The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib" (Esaias 1: 3). But while the earth gave the new-born Saviour such a humble reception, Heaven on high celebrated majestically His world-saving coming. A wondrous star, shining with uncommon brightness and following a strange course, led Magi from the East to Bethlehem to worship the new-born King. Certain shepherds who were in the area of Bethlehem, who kept watch while tending their sheep, were suddenly surrounded by an extraordinary light, and they saw before them an Angel who proclaimed to them the good tidings of the Lord's joyous Nativity. And straightway, together with this Angel, they beheld and heard a whole host of the Heavenly Powers praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men" (Luke 2:8-14).

# 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

### DECEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 1 <b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:30 pm Bible Faith Studies	 2	 3 Bible Studies Class w/ Fr. John 11 am	 4 <b>Barbara the Great Martyr</b> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	 5	 6 <b>St. Nicholas the Wonderworker</b> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	 7
 8 <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:30 pm Bible Faith Studies	 9	 10	 11	 12 <b>Spyridon the Wonderworker</b> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	 13	 14
 15 <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of St. Luke</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 Divine Liturgy Cancelled Bible Faith Studies	 16	 17	 18	 19	 20	 21
 22 <b>Sunday before Nativity</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:30 pm Bible Faith Studies	 23	 24 Office Closed Christmas Eve Vespers Liturgy 4 pm	25 Office Closed <b>Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ</b> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	26	27 <b>Stephen, Archdeacon and First Martyr</b> 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	28
29 <b>Sunday after Nativity</b> 8:30 am Orthros 9:45 am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy 12:30 pm Bible Faith Studies	30	31 New Years Eve				
		Strict Fast 	Fish Allowed 	Wine and Oil Allowed 	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed 	Fast Free