

SAINT SOPHIA

Axiologa

"worth mentioning"



DECEMBER 12, 2021

11th Sunday of St. Luke

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BOARD OF AUDITORS:

Jim Boltinghouse, Nicholas Manolelis, Michele Panagiota Olivar

Saint Sophia Cathedral
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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.

Memorials

Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest,

Basil G. Litras (40 days)

George Damergis (3 years)

Valentyňa Morar

Vasso Georgiadis

Pauline Tassop

John Tassop

Nicholas Tassop

Ernie Tassop

Lola Gialketsis

George Gialketsis

Michele'

Demetra

Penelope

Helen Kamas (20 years)

ALTAR CANDLES

Offered in loving memory of Vasso Georgiadis by her friend
Afrodite Bils.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR

In loving memory of Basil G. Litras and George Damergis.



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

SEE'S CANDY SALE

This winter we will once again be raising funds to help the Penelope Centers for Domestic Violence and the Penelopean Day Care Center in Athens, Greece.

It's that time of year when the world falls in love....time to be thankful for all we have and getting ready for the Christmas Season. The Daughters of Penelope will be selling See's Candy in the hall foyer after church during coffee hour. We will have the small Merry Boxes for \$7.00 each, and one pound boxes of Nuts and Chews or Assorted Chocolates for \$24.00 each. They make wonderful gifts or just something yummy to keep in your house! Please stop by the table and pick up your favorite chocolates. We can accept cash or checks (no credit cards). Sale started November 21. We will sell each week until all the candy is gone. Thank you!



SAINT SOPHIA RESIDENCES FOR LEASE

Lovely and spacious

2 bedroom/2 bath and 3 bedroom/2 bath
Apartments are now available at the beautifully
maintained building located directly behind

Saint Sophia Cathedral at

1425 South Mariposa Avenue Los Angeles

If you are 55 or older and an Orthodox Christian,
come check out these apartments while they are
still available and join a friendly Orthodox
community!

2 bedroom/2 bath-\$1400 3 bedroom/2 bath-
\$1800 Please call Louis Pappas 310-902-0852

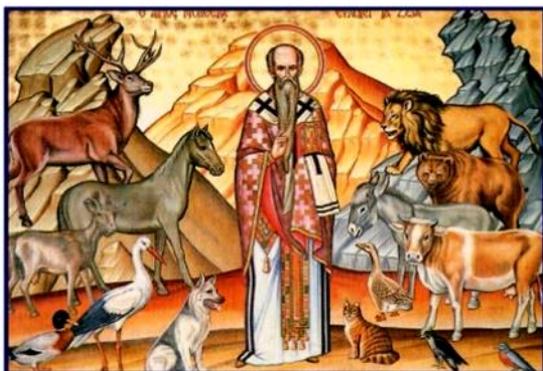
Please join us for the

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, December 19, 2021 at Noon
(Immediately following the Divine Liturgy)

honoring
Saint Modestos

Bring your family's furry one(s)* to be blessed outside Saint Sophia Cathedral!
If small children don't have a pet, they may bring a favorite stuffed animal.
We will learn about Saint Modestos, how he loved animals and why we bless them!



Saint Modestos, Patron Saint of Animals

All dogs must be secured on leash (no flexi leads**) with a **secure** fitting collar/harness. If your dog tends to react (bark) to other people or dogs, please tie a red bandana around his/her neck so all will know to give your pet some space. Cats may be on a leash (if they can be safely secured) otherwise; cats along with other furry and feathery ones such as rabbits, hamsters, birds, etc. should be secured in carriers/crates.*

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

CANNED FOOD DRIVE – Philoptochos is sponsoring a Christmas canned food drive in partnership with St. Thomas’s parish next door, to support the families of our Byzantine-Latino community. Please bring canned or boxed food of all types to Saint Sophia to be collected on Sunday, December 19th. We will have collection boxes and areas for bags in entry area of the Huffington Center. Keep an eye on the weekly bulletin for updates and information. Please bring whatever you can to help those experiencing food insecurity in our greater community!

POINSETTIA DELIVERY FOR SHUT-INS - On Sunday, December 19th, we will deliver a Christmas poinsettia to our community members who are not able to leave their homes and/or come to church. If you know someone (elderly or ill) who is at home and needs some Christmas cheer this season, please give us their name at: ssphiloptochos@gmail.com or call (323) 737-2424 x204

BIBLE STUDIES

We hope to have indoor bible studies when permitted but for the time being please join our Bible Study, which, will be conducted online via Zoom Video Conferencing every Tuesday. This, virtual, class will be interactive which allows for questions and answers during the study. Join us every Tuesday morning (11am) for online Bible studies. Please use the same login information below to join the class. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87688782858?pwd=ZytCdmJUZFBUBko1THhhMHE0all2UT09>

Meeting ID: 876 8878 2858 Passcode: 824350

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School classes meet every week unless otherwise noted. Regular Schedule classes start upon dismissal during Holy Communion until 12:00 noon. Please check the Essentials and Herald for schedule changes.

Upcoming dates:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Sunday 12/12/21 | No Class - Annual Christmas Pageant in church following the Divine Liturgy |
| Sunday 12/19/21 | Regular Schedule |
| Sunday 12/26/21 | No classes - Enjoy the holiday break |
| Sunday 1/2/2022 | No classes - Enjoy the holiday break |

Following the holidays, Sunday School classroom instruction will resume on January 9, 2022. If you have any questions about the Sunday School program or are interested in volunteering, please email Eleni Yokasa at stsophiasundayschool@gmail.com.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dear Stewards of Saint Sophia Cathedral,

This Sunday, we will hold Parish Council elections followed by the General Assembly in person. The five candidates resume are in the following pages. To vote, you must be a member in Good Standing.

We look forward to being with you on Sunday, December 12, 2021 after Divine Liturgy.

Thank you,

Saint Sophia Parish Council



BIOS – SAINT SOPHIA PARISH COUNCIL

ELECTIONS 2021

Hello. My name is **Christos Klapsis**, and I am running for Parish Council. It would be my honor to serve our community as a member of the Council. My passion in life is our children and the preservation of our beautiful culture. I strongly believe passing down our religion, traditions, and culture to our children, is to secure the promise of our future as a community. I would relish the opportunity to lead and mentor them while building a thriving future for them in our church. I am a first-generation Greek American. My parents immigrated to the US in their late teens and have achieved the American Dream, by successfully raising two children in our faith and retiring back on the island they're from Lipsi, Greece. I was baptized in the same church our angelic daughter Irini was in Fairview, New Jersey, which is also where I was raised. Ever since she was born, I have been driven to pass on our beautiful religion, traditions, and culture to her and have found a home in our beloved Saint Sophia. I have been a member of Saint Sophia since moving to California in 2003. In fact, the church was the first place I visited when I moved here, and it is also where my beautiful wife Anastacia was baptized upon converting to Greek Orthodox prior to our marriage. As well, our daughter is a member of the dance program here representing St. Sophia at the annual FDF. Since moving to California, I have lived in Santa Monica with my beautiful family and own a General Contracting firm where we work with national institutions in development oversight. I've had a strong connection to the church and God all my life and as I grow older, I am facing a deep calling to be a part of our community to lead our children through the church youth programs. I believe mentoring our children with the values and principals of our religion is an investment in our future and it would give me a deep sense of gratitude for our church to do so. In humility, faith, and strength, I thank you for your consideration and welcome the opportunity to join our Parish Council.

Thank you, Christos Nikitas Klapsis

Greg Beers

"Orthodox by Choice"

I have been active at Saint Sophia Cathedral before I was baptized and married to Katrina (Anast) here in 1986. (GOYA Basketball; scorekeeping/photography). I was a contributing member of the Saint Sophia Camp committee from 1987 to 1996, at one point even being the offsite/ weekend caretaker for 6 months. In 1996 my wife and I moved to Hong Kong for three years and were active in the Saint Luke's parish and the founding period of the Saint Luke Orthodox Cathedral. In 1999 we returned to California and once again became active at Saint Sophia Cathedral, supporting the Cathedral and both the Dance and Camp Ministries. I currently am the Parish Council Vice President, I support the Saint Sophia Camp Ministry with my wife, providing menu planning and provisioning of the food and supplies for the two week program; and continue to support the Greek Dance program.

I am running to build upon the dedicated efforts of those who have served before me that have allowed a spiritual place such as Saint Sophia Cathedral to thrive for my generation and those generations that will follow.

Kathleen Kyriacou

I have been a member at Saint Sophia for over 37 years. I was also married and baptized at St. Sophia. I have been on the Parish Council for the past 2 years serving as the Assistant Treasurer. I have been involved with Saint Sophia Camp for 23 years, including running the program for over 17 camping seasons. I have also been actively involved in the Patriarch Athenagouras Orthodox Institute as the Treasurer of the Southern California Board. I have served on the Greek Dance Board as the treasurer for many years ,involved with GOYA and GOYA Basketball, working the festivals and Easter Picnic and a member of Philoptochos. I would like to continue serving on Parish Counsel to actively grow our youth, youth activities and our young families.

Michael Yallourakis has been a member and steward of Saint Sophia Cathedral for over 10 years.

Michael taught Sunday School, grades 5-6, from 2013-15 and has been co-heading the high school Sunday School class since the start of the 2020 academic year. He has been involved in numerous Saint Sophia community projects and events throughout the years, including gathering donations for the annual Lenten food drive, volunteering and donating to the Greek Festival, participating in and judging the annual Oratorical Festival, reading throughout the Lenten and Holy Week services, and teaching the high school grades at the recent Family Night.

Michael is also an accomplished actor and director. He starred on the Freeform drama “Secret Life of the American Teenager” for several seasons and has since appeared in numerous TV series and feature films, including Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, and Criminal Minds. Michael won a Young Artist Award for his role in “Where Hope Grows” (Lionsgate/Roadside Attractions) for Best Leading Actor in a Feature Film.

He also directed a two-part documentary in Kolkata, India for Fili-Inc. The documentary, entitled “Ekota,” follows the life and plight of a Greek-Orthodox nun, fighting human trafficking one child at a time. The documentary was a great success and was screened at the 2019 San Francisco Metropolis Sunday of Orthodoxy, Pan-Orthodox Fundraising event for the Theotokos Girls’ and Boys’ Orphanage in Kolkata, India.

Michael recently completed a degree in Financial Economics at Columbia University in New York City and looks forward to continuing his faithful service to the Saint Sophia parish back home in Los Angeles.

Dr. Stephen J Yallourakis has been a member of the Saint Sophia Community for the past 12 years. During these years he has been a leading supporter of Saint Sophia and the San Francisco Metropolis. He is in continuous communication with Metropolis representatives to further orthodox projects. Dr. Yallourakis is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and was named Archon Aktouarios in 2005. He has held a position on the Archon National Council since 2006. Dr. Yallourakis' mission through the Archons is to strengthen the unity of the orthodox faithful both locally and nationally. He is the founder and supporter of the publication *First Among Equals: The Ecumenical Patriarch*. This publication describes the history of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the current work of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. The publication has been circulated nationwide and is currently a part of the Sunday School Program under the GO Archdiocese where students will encounter topics such as Church Leadership and Global Orthodoxy. Dr. Yallourakis has also been a member of Leadership 100 since 2000.

He welcomes the opportunity to serve his local parish and the community of Saint Sophia.

Mission Statement:

Keep, Practice and Proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith

1. Sanctify and Enhance the Life of the Faithful
2. Proclaim and Teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ
3. Add to the Number of the Faithful through Outreach and Evangelism

Orthodox Calendar

DECEMBER 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			✝ 1	 2	✝ 3	 4
		Bible Study via Zoom 11 am				
 5	 6	 7	✝ 8	 9	✝ 10	 11
10th Sunday of St. Luke 9:00 am Orthros 9:45am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	Saint Nicholas 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	Bible Study via Zoom 11 am	Community Night w/ Vespers at 5:30 pm	Conception of Theotokos 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy		
 12	✝ 13	✝ 14	 15	✝ 16	 17	 18
11th Sunday of St. Luke 9:00 am Orthros 9:45am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy		Bible Study via Zoom 11 am				
 19	 20	✝ 21	✝ 22	✝ 23	✝ 24	25
Sunday before Nativity 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Blessing of the Pets Service		Bible Study via Zoom 11 am			Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil 6 pm Christmas Eve	Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday after Nativity 9:00 am Orthros 9:45am Memorials 10:00 am Divine Liturgy					New Year's Eve	
		Strict Fast	Fish Allowed	Wine and Oil Allowed	Dairy, Eggs, and Fish Allowed	Fast Free
		✝				