

**ST. SOPHIA'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK



WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026

**SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE
FIRST COUNCIL**

Κυριακή τῶν Ἁγίων Πατέρων



**METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT**

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal Second Mode

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, and those who guarded You became as though dead. And standing by Your sepulcher was Mary, seeking Your pure sacred body. For You did vanquish Hades, and uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the virgin women, bestowing the gift of life. O You Who rose from the dead, we give glory to You!

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμα σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion of Holy Ascension in the Fourth Mode

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος, βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ Λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

Apolytikion for the Fathers in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Supremely glorified are You, O Christ our God, who established the holy Fathers on earth as beacons, and through them guided us all to the true Faith. Most compassionate Lord, glory be to You!

Apolytikion for the Church in the Plagal First Mode

Like a most fruitful olive tree you did blossom forth in the folds of the Lord, Sophia, martyr most pious! And to Christ you did bring sweetest fruit: the tender sprouts of your womb through divine martyrdom, Agape, along with Hope and Faith, the God-minded with whom do you pray to God for all of us.

Kontakion of Pascha in the Plagal Second Mode

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, * and united things on earth with the things in heaven, * You were taken up thither in glory, O Christ our God, * going not away from any place, * but continuing inseparable, * and to them that love You crying out: * “I am with you, and there is, therefore, none against you.”

Πράξεων τῶν Ἀποστόλων (20:16 – 18, 28 – 36)

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ΄. Προσευχὴ τῶν Ἁγίων Τριῶν Παίδων.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν.
Στίχ. Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἷς ἐποίησας ἡμῖν.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, ἔκρινεν ὁ Παῦλος παραπλεῦσαι τὴν Ἔφεσον, ὅπως μὴ γένηται αὐτῷ χρονοτριβῆσαι ἐν τῇ Ἀσίᾳ· ἔσπευδε γάρ, εἰ δυνατὸν ἦν αὐτῷ, τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς πεντηκοστῆς γενέσθαι εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. Ἀπὸ δὲ τῆς Μιλήτου πέμψας εἰς Ἔφεσον μετεκαλέσατο τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς ἐκκλησίας. ὡς δὲ παρεγένοντο πρὸς αὐτόν, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· προσέχετε οὖν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ παντὶ τῷ ποιμνίῳ ἐν ᾧ ὑμᾶς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον ἔθετο ἐπισκόπους, ποιμαίνειν τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ Θεοῦ, ἣν περιποιήσατο διὰ τοῦ ἰδίου αἵματος. ἐγὼ γὰρ οἶδα τοῦτο, ὅτι εἰσελεύσονται μετὰ τὴν ἄφιξίν μου λύκοι βαρεῖς εἰς ὑμᾶς μὴ φειδόμενοι τοῦ ποιμνίου· καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς ὀπίσω αὐτῶν. διὸ γρηγορεῖτε, μνημονεύοντες ὅτι τριετίαν νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν οὐκ ἐπαυσάμην μετὰ δακρύων νοουθετῶν ἕνα ἕκαστον. καὶ τὰ νῦν παρατίθεμαι ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, τῷ Θεῷ καὶ τῷ λόγῳ τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ τῷ δυναμένῳ ἐποικοδομῆσαι καὶ δοῦναι ὑμῖν κληρονομίαν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πᾶσιν. ἀργυρίου ἢ χρυσίου ἢ ἱματισμοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐπεθύμησα· αὐτοὶ γινώσκετε ὅτι ταῖς χρεῖαις μου καὶ τοῖς οὔσι μετ' ἐμοῦ ὑπηρέτησαν αἱ χεῖρες αὐταί. πάντα ὑπέδειξα ὑμῖν ὅτι οὕτω κοπιῶντας δεῖ ἀντιλαμβάνεσθαι τῶν ἀσθενούντων, μνημονεύειν τε τῶν λόγων τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ, ὅτι αὐτὸς εἶπε· μακάριόν ἐστι μᾶλλον δίδοναι ἢ λαμβάνειν. καὶ ταῦτα εἰπὼν, θείσ τὰ γόνατα αὐτοῦ σὺν πᾶσιν αὐτοῖς προσηύξατο.

Acts of the Apostles (20:16 – 18, 28 – 36)

Prokeimenon. Fourth Mode. The Prayer of Azariah.

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers.

Verse: For You are righteous in all You did for us.

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: “Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of the Lord and God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ‘it is more blessed to give than to receive.’” And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ἰωάννην Εὐαγγελίου (17:1-13)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐπάρας ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ εἶπε· πάτερ, ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα· δόξασόν σου τὸν υἱόν, ἵνα καὶ ὁ υἱός σου δοξάσῃ σε, καθὼς ἔδωκας αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πάσης σαρκός, ἵνα πᾶν ὃ δέδωκας αὐτῷ δώσῃ αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. αὕτη δέ ἐστίν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωὴ, ἵνα γινώσκωσί σε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ ὃν ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. ἐγὼ σε ἐδόξασα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὸ ἔργον ἐτελείωσα ὃ δέδωκάς μοι ἵνα ποιήσω· καὶ νῦν δόξασόν με σύ, πάτερ, παρὰ σεαυτῷ τῇ δόξῃ ἣ εἶχον πρὸ τοῦ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι παρὰ σοί. Ἐφανέρωσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου. σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασι. νῦν ἔγνωκαν ὅτι πάντα ὅσα δέδωκάς μοι παρὰ σοῦ ἐστίν· ὅτι τὰ ῥήματα ἃ δέδωκάς μοι δέδωκα αὐτοῖς, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλαβον, καὶ ἔγνωσαν ἀληθῶς ὅτι παρὰ σοῦ ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν ὅτι σύ με ἀπέστειλας. Ἐγὼ περὶ αὐτῶν ἐρωτῶ· οὐ περὶ τοῦ κόσμου ἐρωτῶ, ἀλλὰ περὶ ὧν δέδωκάς μοι, ὅτι σοὶ εἰσι, καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα σὰ ἐστὶ καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ, καὶ δεδόξασμαι ἐν αὐτοῖς. καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ οὗτοι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰσὶ, καὶ ἐγὼ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι. πάτερ ἅγιε, τήρησον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου ᾧ δέδωκάς μοι, ἵνα ὧσιν ἐν καθὼς ἡμεῖς. ὅτε ἤμην μετ' αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐγὼ ἐτήρουν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου· οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐφύλαξα, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπόλετο εἰ μὴ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῇ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι, καὶ ταῦτα λαλῶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἵνα ἔχωσιν τὴν χαρὰν τὴν ἐμὴν πεπληρωμένην ἐν αὐτοῖς.



The Gospel According to John (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made. I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name; those whom you have given me I have guarded, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.”



TODAY'S FEASTS AND SAINTS



May 24

Sunday of The Fathers of the First Council

We also Commemorate:

- + **Symeon the Stylite**
- + **Vincent of Lerins**
- + **Third Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist (May 25)**
- + **Therapon, Bishop of Cyprus (May 25) ***

**St. Sophia's is blessed to house a relic of St. Therapon*

The heresiarch Arius was a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria. In 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son and Word of God, saying that He is not true God, consubstantial with the Father, but is rather a work and creation, alien to the essence and glory of the Father, and that there was a time when He was not. This frightful blasphemy shook the faithful of Alexandria. Alexander, his Archbishop, after trying in vain to correct him through admonitions, cut him off from communion and finally in a local council deposed him in the year 321. Yet neither did Arius wish to be corrected, nor did he cease his heretical teachings; but writing to the bishops of other cities, requested that his doctrine be examined, and if it were unsound, that the correct teaching be declared to him. By this means, his heresy became universally known and won many supporters, so that the whole Church was soon in an uproar.

Therefore, moved by divine zeal, the first Christian Sovereign, Saint Constantine the Great, the equal to the Apostles, summoned the renowned First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. The shepherds and teachers of the Church of Christ from all regions gathered there in the year 325. All of them, with one voice, declared that the Son and Word of God is one in essence with the Father, true God of true God, and they composed the holy Symbol of Faith up to the seventh article (since the remainder, beginning with "And in the Holy Spirit," was completed by the Second Ecumenical Council). Thus they anathematized Arius and those of like mind with him.

Therefore, recognizing the divine Fathers as heralds of the Faith after the divine Apostles, the Church of Christ has appointed this present Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto the glory of God, unto their praise and honor, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.

From Today's Hymnography

Luminous stars of the spiritual sky,
illumine my mind with the light of your rays. Arius be a stranger to God's glory,
for calling the Son a stranger to the Father's essence.

(Synaxarion, Orthros)

At the End of the Divine Liturgy



May his Memory be Eternal

Memorial

**Frederick L Zimmerman III
(40 Days)**



40 Day Blessing

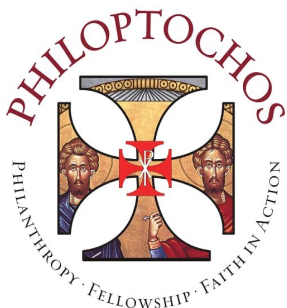
Athena MaryAnne Romano

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

In Memory of Fred Zimmerman

Given by Dorothy Zimmerman and Family

A special thank you to the following members of our community who have volunteered to donate their time today to serve coffee:



Joy Papazides

Matina Sterio



Weekly Calendar

Today

8:45 am Orthros

Sunday of the Fathers

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Monday ~ May 25

8:30 am Woodlawn Cemetery

Memorial Day

10:00 am Oakwood Cemetery

11:00 am St. Mary's Cemetery

Wednesday ~ May 27

6:00-8:00pm Greek Dance Practice

Thursday ~ May 28

6:00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday ~ May 30

9:00 am Orthros

Saturday of Souls

10:00 am Divine Liturgy (Soul Saturday)

5:00 pm Great Vespers (Holy Pentecost)

Attention GOYAns!!

We're getting ready for our 2026-2027 GOYA officer elections. Voting will take place on Sunday, June 7th, following dance practice.

If you'll be in 10th-12th grade next year and want to take on a leadership role along with its responsibilities, come prepared.

Tell us why you want to be an officer and share a few ideas for events or activities you'd love to help lead.

Officers include president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Fr Niko is very excited to get started and get to know all of you!

Dear St. Sophia's Community,

Our baking crews have been busy. We want to thank all of the tireless volunteers for all their hard work so far. The koulourakia, kourabiedes, finikia, pita dough, and pasta flora are complete and tucked away. Let's keep up the good work. Please check the baking schedule and volunteer when you can.

Thanks again for all your hard work. We appreciate all of your time, treasure, and talents.

Peter Lemoniades

St. Sophia's Congratulates our Scholarship Recipients:

Michael Anthis

St. Sophia's Scholarship & Philoptochos Scholarship

Demetre Corinis

Philoptochos Scholarship

We would also like to recognize the following High School Seniors:

Stevie Tonas

Alena Peios

Mara Vasiliou

Dafni Mountrakis

Thomai Kipouropoulos



2026 ST. TIMOTHY SUMMER CAMP



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



sttimothycamp.org

THE DETAILS

When: August 9th - 15th, 2026

Where: Camp Oswegatchie - Croghan, NY

Who: 8 years old - High Schoolers

Scholarships Available

QUESTIONS?

youth@detroit.goarch.org

The Greek Festival Needs
YOU

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/46862634090/false#/invitation>

Mon.-Fri. May 25-29: 9am-7pm
Baklava

Saturday May 30: 9am-11am
Unload Delivered Paper Products

Wed. June 3: 9am-12pm
Finikia syrup and dip

Thurs.-Fri. June 4-5 : 9am-9pm
Pastry cupping and boxing

Saturday, June 6: 9am
Tzatziki Making

Monday, June 8th: 11am-4pm
Electric & Gas Setup

Tuesday, June 9
9am-3pm **Pitas**
11am-4pm **Electric & Gas Setup**
3pm-9pm **Rice Pudding**
5pm **Outside Tent Setup**

Wednesday, June 10:
9am-3pm: **Pitas**
3pm-9pm: **Rice Pudding**

Sunday, June 14: 4pm-6pm
Breakdown

In dance news...

June 7th mandatory dress rehearsal
following Divine Liturgy

Group photos will take place and a full performance under the tent.

More details to come on Remind



**JUNE
11-14**

53rd Annual
**ST. SOPHIA'S
GREEK FESTIVAL**

THURS. JUNE 11th 5 PM to 9 PM

FRI. JUNE 12th 5 PM to 10 PM

SAT. JUNE 13th Noon to 10 PM

SUN. JUNE 14th Noon to 4 PM

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RAIN OR SHINE | FREE PARKING | FREE ADMISSION | FREE SHUTTLE

**Volunteers
Needed!**

Any help is appreciated to weed and clean up the Parish House grounds in preparation for Fr. Niko and Presv. Ivey's arrival. Please contact Presv. Donna or the parish office for details



Parish Contact Information

Very Rev. Fr. David R. Smith — *Proistamenos*

Cell: (315) 269-4940, Email: frdavid@stsophias.org

Nigel van der Woude — *Parish Office Administrator*

Office: (315) 446-5222, Email: nigel@stsophias.org

Office Hours — Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM — 4:30PM



St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church

325 Waring Rd, Syracuse, NY 13224

stsophias.org

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