

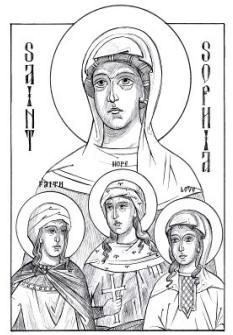


NEPSIS

Spiritual watchfulness and alertness. "Watch, therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming" (Matthew 24:42)

Saint Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church
325 Waring Road
Syracuse, New York 13224

Phone (315) 446-5222
Fax (315) 251-1654



"In Coming as a Baby, He Redeemed Us"

I want all of us to slow down a little from the bustle of the holiday season and reflect on the meaning of the celebration we keep, our Lord Jesus Christ, and His birth as a child in Bethlehem. I'll achieve this if we take a deep breath, slow down, and read.

In His coming, our Creator became part of His creation to save creation. "Your hands made and fashioned me; instruct me, and I will learn Your commandments" (Psalm 119:73). How many new parents hold their children for the first time and look at those tiny hands! Wrinkled, complete, little knuckles and palms... I can remember thinking when my own grandchildren were born: this is indeed a great miracle. Brothers and sisters, look again at the baby born in the cave held in the arms of the Theotokos and Virgin, look at His hands! Those are the hands that made you!

In the eternity of His being, He saves us from destruction. You know that in heaven, things are going to be better than they are here on earth, right? And what do you want most in heaven? Only one thing – you want it to last forever. And it will. God's birth in Bethlehem brought us the grace of eternal life, and through the most fragile of living things, a baby, He conveyed it to us. I have been in hospitals with the most sophisticated medical equipment available, and seen newborns only live for a few moments. How fleeting, how ephemeral, how tenuous the life of a baby can be! But look, look right now into the manger in Bethlehem. There He is, your eternal life!

In the humility of His coming, he overcomes our sinful pride. St. Paul tells us this about our Lord's birth: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:5-7). Here's a good way to put it: if God became a baby for my sake, I must embrace humility to be like Him. Look at Him, the baby of Bethlehem! You and I must try to be that innocent, that trusting, that humble!

In His newness, he became the New Man and brings us new life. St. Paul tells us that this gives us a certain responsibility: "...that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that your put on the new man which was created according to the God, in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24). It is not easy to do the things I've suggested in this short reflection. Look upon the baby, I've said, and emulate Him. But, brothers and sisters, He is the New Life. We cannot live except that we try, try each day, try with all our strength, try and try again when we fail, to "put on the new man which was created according to God" (Ephesians 4:24).

In the Nativity, there is quiet, darkness, peace. The singing of the angelic choirs is serene. The faces on Mary and Joseph are full of joy. "Glory to God in the highest," they say, "and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men!" (St Luke 2:14). I pray that this beautiful Nativity season will be full of peace and goodwill for you and your family.

Your affectionate servant,
Father David

**DECEMBER
2022**

2022 Parish Council

Peter Manolacos
President

Thomas Anthis Jr.
Vice President

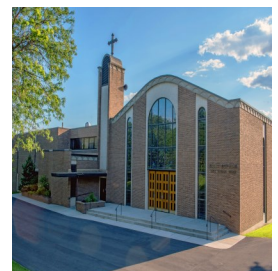
Christopher Shiomos, OD
Secretary

Michael Copanas
Treasurer

Robert Allen
Joy Weatherup Anthis
Stephanie Armatas
Dimitrios Kiritsis
Eleni Kosmas, MD
George Nardone
John Potamianos
Jeanette Capousis Vigliotti
~~~~~

Honorary  
Board Member  
*James Sakezles*

**VISIT THE  
PARISH  
WEBSITE**  
[stsophias.org](http://stsophias.org)

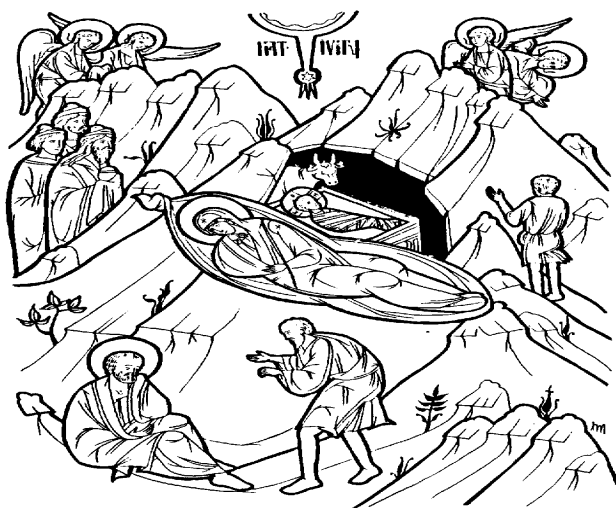


# **CHRISTMAS** **SERVICES**

**CHRISTMAS EVE ~ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**  
**9:00 AM ROYAL HOURS**

**6:00 PM VESPERAL LITURGY**  
**(ENGLISH)**  
**FOLLOWED BY CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**CHRISTMAS DAY ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH**  
**9:00 AM ORTHROS**  
**10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY**  
**(GREEK)**  
**NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST**



*Christ  
is Born!  
Glorify  
Him!*



***Sunday School***  
***Christmas Pageant***  
***Sunday, December 11***  
***Following Divine Liturgy***



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parish,

I have some questions. First, is the war on Christmas over? Second, who won? Battles were fought over replacing Merry Christmas with Happy Holidays. Religious displays on government property were deemed a violation of the constitution. Stores played holiday music, not Christmas carols. And yet Christmas did not disappear from the public square.

What remained, however, was a more secularized celebration, fewer manger, more sleighs, fewer Magi, more Santa. Religious leaders of many denominations raised the cry "Keep Christ in Christmas". When all is said and done, did all this noise, all the brouhaha matter? I do not know and I think the controversies are totally irrelevant to us as Orthodox Christians. Yes, we enjoy the excitement and the fun of the Yuletide season. We have delightful Christmas parties. We look forward to opening presents, anticipating the warm thanks from the adults and the squeals of delight from the children. Christmas is a happy time. It should also be a tearful time.

Here is another question. If you were alone on a remote (not desert) island, would Christmas be a sad day. Probably since you, I, would miss the excitement of the celebration. But the real excitement, the real celebration, is so much more crucial to us than trees, gifts, ham and turkey. The real celebration is the celebration of the greatest gift, the greatest opportunity we could ever have.

At every liturgy we celebrate both God's incarnation and His resurrection. Christ is "begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man". Now that's a gift.

Christmas is the celebration of God coming into the world for all to "see" Him. He comes not as a burning bush, but as a human being. God and man at the same time. He comes to offer us the opportunity so that with His help and Grace we might receive salvation. He comes to sacrifice His human self so we can be like Him in his Godly self. We are offered the opportunity to "see" Him, to be like Him.

Jesus exhorts us to "be perfect". We cannot be perfect without God's help. Without His Grace, we can never even get close to the mark. But with His grace and love all things are possible, we can get through the eye of a needle. This is the great challenge and opportunity that begins with Christmas but is made clear with Pascha. So how should we celebrate these miracles? I think we celebrate with heartfelt tears, tears of joy, tears of humility, tears of repentance, tears of love.

In this Christmas season, with the hustle and bustle of shopping, and wrapping and "Holiday Parties", overlaid with the excitement of children, let us all sprinkle in those tears, shedding them with sincerity and love. Let us remember what the feast is all about, remembering the war cry of the Christmas warriors to "Keep Christ in Christmas". To paraphrase that great American philosopher Forrest Gump, Christmas is as Christmas does.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish you all a meaningful Merry Christmas and a hopeful Happy New Year.

Yours in Christ,

*Peter Manolakos*

Parish Council President





# St. Sophia's Annual Christmas Card

JOIN US AND BE PART OF SHARING HOLIDAY  
WISHES WITH ALL ST. SOPHIA PARISHIONERS!

## PLACE YOUR ORDER:

- THROUGH THE ONLINE GIVING OPTION AT [STSOPHIAS.ORG](https://stsophias.org)
- STOP BY THE SIGN-UP TABLE AFTER CHURCH ON SUNDAY'S, OR
- SEND YOUR DONATION TO ST SOPHIA'S CHURCH, 325 WARING ROAD, SYRACUSE, NY 13224. (BE SURE TO INCLUDE HOW YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME LISTED.)

Minimum Donation: \$25

Don't miss out!

All orders must be in by December 5th.





## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

We hope that you enjoyed the Stewardship Breakfast. Many of you who attended dropped your pledge 2023 cards in the basket. We thank you for that. I want to remind all who have not submitted their 2023 pledge, that the Archdiocesan stewardship system requires that a parishioner must be in good standing to fully participate in the governance of the Church. To be a member in good standing for 2023 you must have made a 2022 pledge and fully paid it. In addition, to vote in a General Assembly meeting and parish council elections you must have made a pledge for 2023. Nearly everyone knows this, but I have to remind everyone anyway. The Parish Council is grateful for your financial support and for all the volunteer work that so many of you do.

Yours in Christ,

*Peter Manolakos*

Parish Council President



### 2023 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD

*St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church ~ 325 Waring Road Syracuse, NY 13224 ~ (315) 446-5222*

*In gratitude for God's blessing I/we pledge to contribute, for Christ's work  
at St. Sophia's Church, for 2023 a total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

*If you are interested in paying by Credit/Debit Card  
do so Online via the Church website [stsophias.org](http://stsophias.org)*

Please Print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COMPLETION OF THIS CARD IS A REQUIREMENT TO BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING**

## St. Sophia's Website & Mailing List

Visit St. Sophia's website [www.stsophias.org](http://www.stsophias.org). There is a wealth of information on the website with the most up to date calendar on services and events, color photographs from recent functions, electronic sacrament forms to easily fill out and submit, and an online chapel highlighting the days readings and hymns.

Please subscribe to our mailing list to receive the latest information instantly. By subscribing to the mailing list you will be able to receive the electronic form of the Nepsis, the weekly bulletin, parish obituary announcements, and any other pertinent information. You may sign up by going to the website and clicking the tab titled "Subscribe to our Mailing List" or via this link: <https://www.stsophias.org/join-our-mail-list> It's that easy!

If you no longer require the paper copy of Nepsis through the mail, please notify Katina in the office so that you may be removed from the mailing list.

## Church Services & Events

Calendars are provided  
in the Nepsis or  
check the website at

[stsophias.org](http://stsophias.org)  
for church services & events



## CHOIR



*We welcome everyone  
to join our Choir*

*Check the Church Calendar  
for upcoming Choir Practices*





## AHEPA Syracuse Chapter 37

First and foremost, on behalf of our AHEPA Syracuse Chapter 37 we wish all of you and your families a Very Merry Christmas.

Our chapter's work is done by the participation of all our members and non-members. The year 2022 we had 4 new members, we bestowed honorary membership to 4 of our parishioners, and we presented awards to members for their loyalty and dedication.

The AHEPA Syracuse Foundation distributed \$1,000.00 to each of the non for profits – Ronald McDonald House, Francis House, My Father's Kitchen and Keating Sloan Hospital in N.Y. City.

Our chapter gave out 2 -\$1,000.00 and 1 -\$500.00 scholarships to three of our parish youngsters who are entering or are in college.

Our AHEPA Home is providing excellent housing for senior citizens. All these are made possible with the dedicated work of many brothers and sisters.

We would like to congratulate two of our Brothers, Ted Limpert – now Honorable Judge Limpert of Onondaga County and John Lemondes – re-elected to the N.Y.S. Assembly. We are very proud and honored to have them in our chapter.

Coming to our chapter events does not require membership, but if you would like to join us as a member, all it takes is to contact us.

Wishing you joyful Christmas,

Mike Labatos, President  
AHEPA Syracuse Chapter 37

315-427-7628

AlphaRealtyOfSyracuse@gmail.com





### **THE EARLY GREEK IMMIGRANT IN THE U.S.**

The Greek Immigrants look to find employment or pursue as their own business fisheries, farming, millworkers, railroad laborers and miners. Greek fisheries in Rhode Island and the sponge fishing colony of Tarpon Springs, Florida were places where the Greek immigrant population concentrated in large numbers.

### **THE COMMUNITY AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

It was in 1891 that Prince George, of the Greek Monarchy, passed through the United States. He was returning home from a visit to Japan, where he saved the life of the Russian czar from an assassin's hand. He landed in San Francisco and he stopped in New York City on his way back home. He met with leading Greeks and left them the idea of organizing a Greek Society.

This led to about 500 Greeks in N.Y. City establishing the society called "The Hellenic Brotherhood of Athena" and this society went to Greece to request for a priest. In Chicago "The Lycourgos Society" was established for the purpose of building a church. Soon a second priest was called for and sent to that city. This was the beginning of the Orthodox Greek Communities in America. Late 1800 to early 1900 Greeks formed many societies and there were Hellenic Orthodox Churches being established. The Greek societies took care of their own who had a need and also aid their mother country, Hellas. Each association was representing a particular part of Greece, such as the Cretan Association, Kefalonian Association, Makethonian Association, etc. The Pan-Hellenic Union was formed in 1904 and at the end of 1912 it had some 150 branches around the U.S.A. and by 1913 there were 16 Greek newspapers.

The Greek loves to read the entire newspaper. The newspaper above all else keeps him in touch with the motherland and with his fellow countrymen here. He keeps informed with the happenings in Hellas, especially the politics.

Next on the NEPSIS of January "The Greek Family and Greek Schools".

Mike Labatos, President  
AHEPA Syracuse Chapter 37  
315-427-7628  
AlphaRealtyOfSyracuse@gmail.com



## CHRISTMAS IN THE HORIO (Village)

Faith, family, food and a few superstitions were the mainstays surrounding the celebration of Christmas, New Year's and Epiphany growing up in my small village of Panagitsa located in northern Arcadia in the Peloponnese where extended families included grandparents, parents and children living together in small stone houses sharing their daily lives and meals. As children we were thrilled to have two weeks away from school and hoped to play in the occasional snow that fell in our mountain village.

There was no running water, electricity or the other modern accommodations that we now take for granted. The wood burning fireplace warmed the house and was the center of the home where we sat with Papou sharing stories of the war and Yiayia telling fairytales (paraithia) until sleepiness overwhelmed us and we went to bed. On very cold nights my mother would warm a keramidi (clay shingle) in the fireplace and then wrap it in heavy cloth placing it at the end of the bed to warm our sheets so our feet would not be cold.

Each family in the village, especially the mothers and grandmothers would be busy preparing Christopsomo (Christmas bread) decorated fancy with walnuts and the always present cross on top. This special bread would be cut on Christmas Day. A variety of cookies like melomakarona, kourabiethes and thiples would be available for family members and guests. Church services were an essential element of the holiday season. Families would walk to our church of Analipsis (Ascension) for services on Christmas Day, New Year's Day (Saint Basil's liturgy), Theophany (January 6<sup>th</sup>) and Saint John the Baptist services on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

We followed the fast throughout the holiday season but were especially strict the week prior to Christmas and the day before Epiphany/Theophany. The vasilopita (Saint Basil's bread) would be cut on New Years Day, usually by the eldest member of the family in the home. The first piece was cut for Christ and would be placed in the iconostasio, the second for Saint Basil and the third for the poor. Each family member would then be given a piece starting with the eldest to the youngest. A flori (coin) was placed in the vasilopita and whoever found the coin in their piece was believed to have a lucky year ahead! In old times people would wrap a small piece of hay in cloth and a separately wrapped piece of cheese and cook them into the pita. If an unmarried girl picked a piece of pita with the hay in it, she would marry a farmer and if she selected a piece with the cheese, she would marry a shepherd. We practiced the kalanda (Christmas and New Year's carols) at school and would go in small groups to the houses in the village singing songs. We would be rewarded with small treats such as sweets, walnuts, almonds, an apple or orange and even an occasional drachma! One of the old kalanda that we sang was:

«Να ζώμεν βίον τέλειον κατά το Ευαγγέλιον,  
Τη κακία να αρνιθώμεν με αρετές να στολίστωμεν.»  
"To live life to the fullest according to the gospel,  
To deny evil with virtues we are adorned."

There were no Christmas trees or Santa Claus. Saint Basil brought children gifts on New Years Day..... perhaps a pencil, a new eraser, a candy bar, a new notebook or for the lucky a new pair of shoes. Most families raised a pig all year to be slaughtered for the holiday season. They would cook chops for after the Christmas fast, make pasto and smoked sausages in the fireplace to be eaten throughout the year. On New Years Eve families would play cards, especially the game 31 and the winner would have good luck the rest of the year. On New Years Day the head of the house would walk outside and re-enter with his right foot first for good luck. It was believed that if the first person you saw on New Years Day was a child or a person of good character then you would have a fortunate year ahead.

The village priest would go house to house the day before Epiphany to bless them and remove any evil spirits from the home. This was known as Protagiassi (first blessing). He would bring a couple of children along carrying tagaria (satchels) in which he would place any gifts given to him for the blessing, often these would be gifts of walnuts, sweets, fruit or halva.

One superstition that was spread through the generations was that of the Kallikantzaroι. These pesky little imps would come from the underworld to wreak havoc on earth during the days between Christmas and Epiphany. People would place farartezs (sharpened dried needles of the asparagus plant) in the fireplace and around the house to keep them from causing damage until they returned to the underworld. These are some of the traditions that I remember growing up in my small Greek village in the Peloponnese. We didn't have a lot of material things but we were rich in love, family and prayer. I hope that memories you share with your own families during our blessed holidays give you much peace and happiness. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours.'

## PHILOTOCHOS NEWS

It has been a wonderful year to regroup and work on a number of projects. Thanks to our members and our St. Sophia community for your support. Your efforts and participation fuels our Philoptochos organization to deliver on a number of good works projects. Most recently, we had a wonderful Lasagna Dinner where the funds will go to My Father's Kitchen and our Baklava Pan Sale to benefit a number of hard working non-profit groups locally as well as globally.

Philoptochos Members we will acknowledge and look forward to 2023 at our Christmas Celebration and Meeting taking place on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Noon. This will take place at Munjed's Middle Eastern and Greek Café at 505 Westcott Street. We will have a lovely fasting luncheon spread. Please contact Liz Steinberg (315) 447-4445 or Jeanette Vigliotti (315) -481-7816. Special thanks to Jeanette who found the venue! Members, it will be \$15.00 per person and bring a gift – \$20.00 for gift exchange. Looking forward to having a lovely time. We will have the whole place to ourselves!

Best wishes to our St. Sophia community for a most joyous Christmas holiday and Blessed New Year.

*Roberta Williams Hristodoulou*

Roberta Williams Hristodoulou  
Philoptochos President



# PHILOPTOCHOS DRIVE



**DONATE**  
**EYEGLASSES**  
**SUN GLASSES**  
**GLASS CASES**

Philoptochos will be collecting these items through December 2022.

There will be a basket in the Narthex for your donated items.

Items collected will be sent to Haiti for distribution to people in need.

**THANK YOU** for your donation!





## **PHILOPTOCHOS** **COFFEE HOURS**

*If you are interested in scheduling a Coffee Hour, please call the Church Office. Fees for sponsoring a Coffee Hour are as follows, payable to the Philoptochos:*

### \$50.00 Fee

*Philoptochos will provide and serve the coffee, milk, sugar and juice. Parishioner must provide pastries.*

### \$150.00 Fee

*Philoptochos will provide and serve the coffee, milk, sugar, juice and pastries.*

*Just a reminder..... Please note that there will be no sponsored Coffee Hours during the Summer months of June, July and August.*

*In addition, there will be no sponsored Coffee Hours on Stewardship Sunday, Godparents Sunday and Cheesefare Sunday.*

*In the event that a parishioner wishes to have a coffee hour during the summer months of June, July and August the fee, payable to the Philoptochos, is \$50.00. Philoptochos would provide coffee, cups, sweetener, creamer, stirrers and set up a serving table. The parishioner would be responsible to provide pastries, setup the serving station and tables, serve at the coffee hour and clean up following the coffee hour. For more details contact our coffee hour coordinator Vivian Alexander at (315) 673-2880 or (315) 430-6162.*

## **December 2022**

### ***Members Volunteering To Serve Coffee Hour***

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

### December 4, 2022

*Jeanne Sarigiannis  
Elizabeth Sakellariou*

### December 11, 2022

*Christina Shiomos  
Kathy Shiomos*

### December 18, 2022

*Nikki Stamoulacatos  
Alexandra Tavlarides*

### December 25, 2022

*No Coffee Hour  
CHRISTMAS*

*~ Also, first two weeks of January 2023~*

### January 1, 2023

*No Coffee Hour  
NEW YEAR*

### January 8, 2023

*Thalia Tonas  
Sofia Vasiliou*

*If you are not currently on our list of volunteers for coffee hours, a sign up sheet is in the gymnasium.*

*All are welcome.*

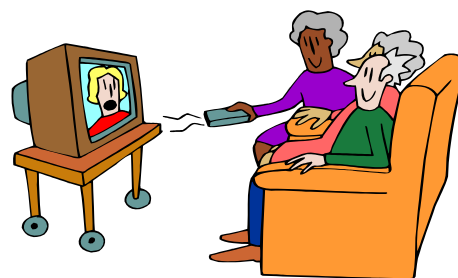


# December 2022

## Program Schedule For Cable Television

All Programs Air on Spectrum (Time Warner) Cable Chanel 98  
in Onondaga County

November 6, 2022



### Sunday Programs at 7:00 pm

“Tradition Today”

On Fox 68 WSYT

*The series has ended*



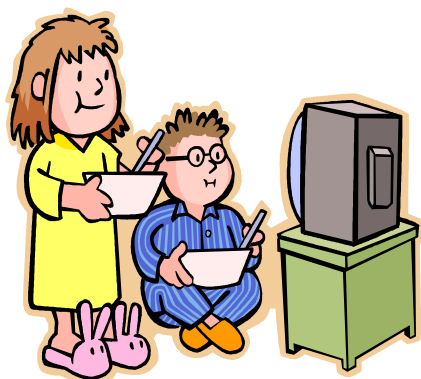
*(On Spectrum channel 98)*

Dec 4, 2022— Getting Ready for Christmas, part 3

Dec 11, 2022— Getting Ready for Christmas, part 4

Dec 18, 2022—Getting Ready for Christmas, part 5

Dec 25, 2022—The Nativity of Christ



### Monday Programs at 7:00 pm

Dec 5, 2022— The Epistle of St. James, part 7

Dec 12, 2022—Forgiveness

*(Fr. David’s “The Inner Way” series  
will now air every Monday)*

Dec 19, 2022—Fr. David’s Christmas program

Dec 26, 2022—The Divine Liturgy, part 1

~~~~~

Family Classic TV

Sponsored by

St. Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church

Sundays at 6:00 pm

Sir Lancelot with William Russell

Sundays at 6:30 pm

The Adventures of Robin Hood with Richard Greene

Sundays at 8:00 pm

Cisco Kid with Duncan Renaldo & Leo Carrillo
(2 episodes)

Thursdays at 8:30 pm

Sherlock Holmes with Ronald Howard

Fridays at 8:00 pm

Jim Bowie with Scott Forbes
(2 episodes)

PLEASE NOTE.....

Our programs also air on Verizon FIOS cable channel 29,

Sunday at 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Thursday at 8:30 pm and 9:00 pm

Many programs also appear on the internet at FrDavidSmith.com



December 2022 Memorials Eternal Be Their Memory

December 4, 2022

- Memorial Service
for Josephine Harris (1 Year)
- Memorial Service
for Constantine (Gus) Karafilopulos (1 Year)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Christ Lemonides (2 Years)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Robert Harris (5 Years)



December 11, 2022

- Trisagion Prayer
for Zoe Papazides (2 Years)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Fotini Papazides (7 Years)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Vasiliki (Betty) Haramis (42 Years)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Cannelio Conostas (44 Years)



December 18, 2022

- Trisagion Prayer
for Dilbera Malelis (2 Years)
- Trisagion Prayer
for Gerasimos Aravantinos (7 Years)



December 25, 2022

- No Memorials Allowed



Sacramental Registry

October 2022

Baptism

John—Son of Shaun & Ana Wood

December 2022 Coffee Hours

December 4, 2022

In Memory of
Christ Lemonides
and

Theodora (Teddi) Cannellos Lemonides

Sponsored by the Family



*Christ is Born!
Glorify Him!*



Philo-Sophia Bookstore

*Now open on Sundays
after Church*

*We offer an assortment of
Christmas gift items—
Icons, Books & Religious Items*



Community Christmas Cookie Drive

We will be collecting cookies or monetary donations to purchase cookies for the annual Community Christmas Cookie Drive. The cookies will be given to those in need at the Soup Kitchen of the Samaritan Center and the Salvation Army Women's and Children's Center.

If you would like to bake or buy cookies, we will be collecting them on Sunday, December 4 to Sunday, December 18—delivering the cookies on Monday, December 19th. Please drop off your donations to the upper level Church kitchen and please clearly mark the donations "Donation to Cookie Drive". Your generosity is greatly appreciated.





SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Hello everyone,

We hope everyone had a Wonderful Thanksgiving! We are excited for our busy December Sunday School schedule where we will once again be putting on our annual Christmas play. Starting this Sunday, there will be a sign up sheet in each of the classrooms for the Christmas play parts. Simply sign up and be part of the play. Rehearsal for the play will be during and after Sunday School on December 4th. The play will take place during service on December 11th. If your child will be in the play, please ensure to arrive at church at 10:00 am on December 11th in order to get dressed and be ready. Also, we will need all children participating in the play to attend the rehearsal on December 4th. We encourage all children to come and be part of the Christmas Play. There are roles for all ages.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 4th—Christmas Play Rehearsal during Sunday School

December 11th—Christmas Play (will take place after Divine Liturgy)

December 18th—Regular Sunday School

December 25th—No Sunday School—Merry Christmas

Thank you and as always please contact Martha, Athena or Jeannie with any questions.

Martha Lemondes

(315) 400-7975

mlemondes@gmail.com

Athena Tzetzis

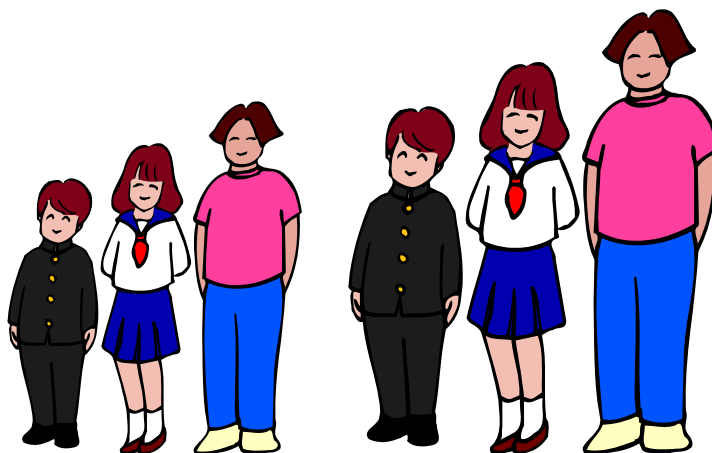
(315) 447-0787

a.tzetzis@icloud.com

Jeannie Dimkopoulos

(315) 720-9900

jeannie.dimkopoulos@gmail.com



**ST. SOPHIA 2022-2023 YOUTH PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM****Check:**

- ◇Sunday School
- ◇Greek School
- ◇GOYA
- ◇Jr. GOYA
- ◇HOPE/JOY
- ◇Dance Group
- ◇Altar
- ◇Play Date
- ◇Basketball/Sports
- ◇Children Choir



Children Name(s)	DOB	Grade	Baptismal Name/ Patron Saint
1. _____			
2. _____			
3. _____			
4. _____			

School District: _____

Contact Information

Email Address(es): _____

Address:

Street: _____ Apt # _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone number: _____

Emergency Contact & Phone # : _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Check and provide address below if either parent or assigned guardian has different address than student

___ Mother ___ Father ___ Guardian Name: _____

Street: _____ Apt # _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Food or other ALLERGIES: _____

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and covenants of our church.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date _____



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of Detroit



presents

Transformative Christianity Webinar Series

***Join us for a 10-part webinar series
to find out what Orthodox Christianity
really has to offer to us and to the world !***

***Wednesday, December 7, 2022
7:00 pm***

***Session 10 ~ Escaping the
Haze of Self Deception***

***A talk about the passion of Pride
with Fr. Michael Marcantoni***





JAMESVILLE DEWITT ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY



The holiday season is fast approaching us. The Jamesville Dewitt Ecumenical Food Pantry depends on the generosity of the community to meet the needs of families who use the pantry. They will be distributing Christmas Presents for the children in the families that use the food pantry. We are collecting only monetary donations at this time to assist them as needed.

For Christmas Donations:

*We will be collecting
\$25.00 Gift Cards from
either Target or Walmart*

*The gift cards are for
Christmas gifts for
the children in the families
that use the food pantry*

*There will be a collection basket
at the Philo Sophia Bookstore
and we will collect gift cards
until Sunday, December 11th*



For questions, please call Ellen Tartakoff (315) 447-4701

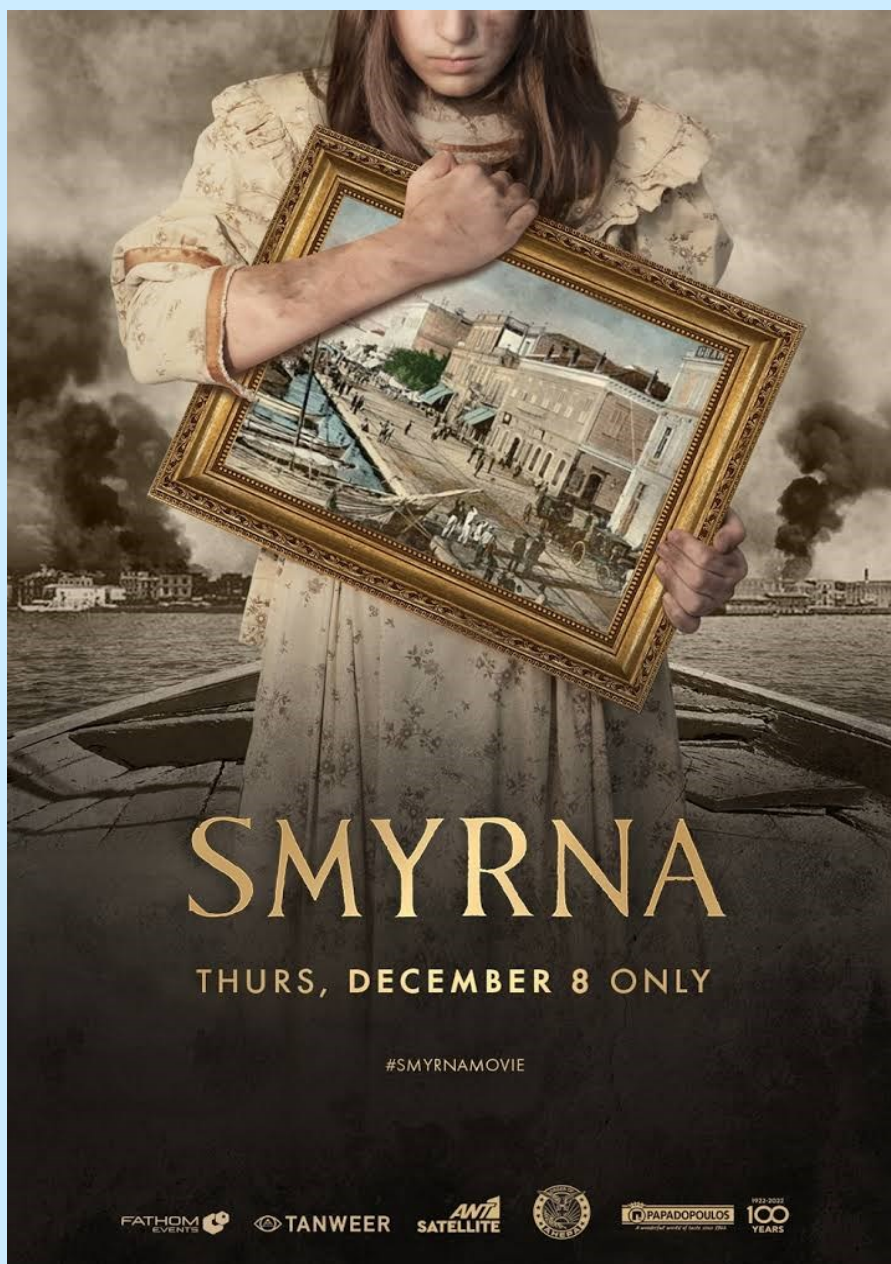
Donations may also be mailed to:

*Ellen Tartakoff
4272 Taylor Road
Jamesville, New York 13078*

Thank you for your generosity and support!

*Showing at Regal Destiny
for one night only, December 8*

*Tickets available from
YAL Members or Fr. David*



St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church—December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					6:00 PM JR GOYA GAME NIGHT 6:00 PM JOY/HOPE CRAFT & MOVIE NIGHT	5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS
4 8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 10TH SUNDAY OF LUKE PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AFTER CHURCH Philoptochos Celebration Luncheon	5 5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP	6 9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY ST. NICHOLAS	7 6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	8 Smyrna Film	9	10 5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS
11 8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 11TH SUNDAY OF LUKE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AFTER CHURCH	12 9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY ST. SPYRIDON 5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP	13 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	14 FATHER DAVID OUT OF TOWN	15 FATHER DAVID OUT OF TOWN	16 FATHER DAVID OUT OF TOWN	17 10:00AM ROMANIAN LITURGY 5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS
18 8:30 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY	19 5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP	20 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	21 6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	22	23	24  CHRISTMAS EVE 9:00 AM ROYAL HOURS 5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS 6:00 PM VESPERAL LITURGY
 25 8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY HOLY NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRISTMAS DAY	26 5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP	27 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	28 6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church—January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST</p> <p>ST. BASIL</p> <p>NEW YEAR'S DAY</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>5</p> <p><u>EVE OF EPIPHANY</u> <u>9:00 AM ROYAL HOURS</u></p> <p>6:00 PM <u>THEOPHANY</u> <u>VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY</u> <u>(IN ENGLISH)</u></p>	<p>6</p> <p><u>HOLY EPIPHANY</u> <u>9:00 AM ORTHROS</u> <u>10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY</u> <u>(IN GREEK)</u></p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST</p> <p>5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 12TH SUNDAY OF LUKE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY ST. ANTHONY</p> <p>7:00 PM YOUTH COMMITTEE MTG</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY 15TH SUNDAY OF LUKE</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY ST. GREGORY</p> <p>6:00 PM PARAKLESIS 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00 PM GREAT VESPERS</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:45 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY SUNDAY OF THE CANAANITE</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 AM ORTHROS 10:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS</p> <p>5:30 PM JESUS PRAYER GROUP</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY</p>				