

**ST. SOPHIA'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK**



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**WEEKLY BULLETIN
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025
JUDGMENT SUNDAY (MEATFARE)**

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METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4
Psalm 146.5;134.3**

Great is our Lord, and great is his power.

Verse: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The reading is from
St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 8:8-13, 9:1-2

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ'
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 146.5;134.3

Μέγας ὁ Κύριος ἡμῶν, καὶ μεγάλη ἡ ἰσχύς αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον, ὅτι ἀγαθός.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 8:8-13, 9:1-2 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, βρῶμα ἡμᾶς οὐκ ἐπαίσησιν τῷ θεῷ· οὔτε γὰρ ἐὰν φάγωμεν περισσεύομεν, οὔτε ἐὰν μὴ φάγωμεν ὑστερούμεθα. Βλέπετε δὲ μήπως ἡ ἐξουσία ὑμῶν αὕτη πρόσκομμα γένηται τοῖς ἀσθενούσιν. Ἐὰν γὰρ τις ἴδῃ σε τὸν ἔχοντα γνῶσιν ἐν εἰδωλείῳ κατακείμενον, οὐχὶ ἡ συνείδησις αὐτοῦ ἀσθενοῦς ὄντος οἰκοδομηθήσεται εἰς τὸ τὰ εἰδωλόθυτα ἐσθίειν; Καὶ ἀπολεῖται ὁ ἀσθενῶν ἀδελφὸς ἐπὶ τῇ σῆι γνώσει, δι' ὃν Χριστὸς ἀπέθανεν; Οὕτως δὲ ἀμαρτάνοντες εἰς τοὺς ἀδελφούς, καὶ τύπτοντες αὐτῶν τὴν συνείδησιν ἀσθενούσαν, εἰς Χριστὸν ἀμαρτάνετε. Διόπερ εἰ βρῶμα σκανδαλίζει τὸν ἀδελφόν μου, οὐκ ἐφάγω κρέα εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ἵνα μὴ τὸν ἀδελφόν μου σκανδαλίσω. Οὐκ εἰμι ἀπόστολος; Οὐκ εἰμι ἐλεύθερος; Οὐχὶ Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν τὸν κύριον ἡμῶν ἑώρακα; Οὐκ τὸ ἔργον μου ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν κυρίῳ; Εἰ ἄλλοις οὐκ εἰμι ἀπόστολος, ἀλλὰ γε ὑμῖν εἰμι· ἡ γὰρ σφραγὶς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀποστολῆς ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν κυρίῳ.

The Gospel According to Matthew

25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 25:31-46 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ὅταν δὲ ἔλθῃ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐν τῇ δόξῃ αὐτοῦ καὶ πάντες οἱ ἅγιοι ἄγγελοι μετ' αὐτοῦ, τότε καθίσει ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ, καὶ συναχθήσεται ἔμπροσθεν αὐτοῦ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ ἀφοριεῖ αὐτοὺς ἀπ' ἀλλήλων ὡσπερ ὁ ποιμὴν ἀφορίζει τὰ πρόβατα ἀπὸ τῶν ἐρίφων, καὶ στήσει τὰ μὲν πρόβατα ἐκ δεξιῶν αὐτοῦ, τὰ δὲ ἐρίφια ἐξ εὐωνύμων. τότε ἐρεῖ ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς ἐκ δεξιῶν αὐτοῦ· δεῦτε οἱ εὐλογημένοι τοῦ πατρός μου, κληρονομήσατε τὴν ἡτοιμασμένην ὑμῖν βασιλείαν ἀπὸ καταβολῆς κόσμου. ἐπέινασα γάρ, καὶ ἐδώκατέ μοι φαγεῖν, ἐδίψησα, καὶ ἐποτίσατέ με, ξένος ἦμην, καὶ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνός, καὶ περιβάλετέ με, ἡσθένησα, καὶ ἐπεσκέψασθέ με, ἐν φυλακῇ ἦμην, καὶ ἦλθετε πρὸς με. τότε ἀποκριθήσονται αὐτῷ οἱ δίκαιοι λέγοντες· κύριε, πότε σε εἶδομεν πεινῶντα καὶ ἐθρέψαμεν, ἢ διψῶντα καὶ ἐποτίσαμεν; πότε δέ σε εἶδομεν ξένον καὶ συνηγάγομεν, ἢ γυμνὸν καὶ περιβάλομεν; πότε δέ σε εἶδομεν ἀσθενῆ ἢ ἐν φυλακῇ, καὶ ἦλθομεν πρὸς σε; καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐρεῖ αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐφ' ὅσον ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου τῶν ἐλαχίστων, ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε. τότε ἐρεῖ καὶ τοῖς ἐξ εὐωνύμων· πορεύεσθε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ οἱ κατηραμένοι εἰς τὸ πῦρ τὸ αἰώνιον τὸ ἡτοιμασμένον τῷ διαβόλῳ καὶ τοῖς ἀγγέλοις αὐτοῦ. ἐπέινασα γάρ, καὶ οὐκ ἐδώκατέ μοι φαγεῖν, ἐδίψησα, καὶ οὐκ ἐποτίσατέ με, ξένος ἦμην, καὶ οὐ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνός, καὶ οὐ περιβάλετέ με, ἀσθενής καὶ ἐν φυλακῇ, καὶ οὐκ ἐπεσκέψασθέ με. τότε ἀποκριθήσονται αὐτῷ καὶ αὐτοὶ λέγοντες· κύριε, πότε σε εἶδομεν πεινῶντα ἢ διψῶντα ἢ ξένον ἢ γυμνὸν ἢ ἀσθενῆ ἢ ἐν φυλακῇ, καὶ οὐ διηκονήσαμεν σοι; τότε ἀποκριθήσεται αὐτοῖς λέγων· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐφ' ὅσον οὐκ ἐποιήσατε ἐνὶ τούτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων, οὐδὲ ἐμοὶ ἐποιήσατε. καὶ ἀπελεύσονται οὗτοι εἰς κόλασιν αἰώνιον, οἱ δὲ δίκαιοι εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Resurrection Apolytikion in the Second Tone

When You descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all-radiant divinity. And when You from internal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out: O life-giving Christ and our God, we give glory!

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἢ ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Apolytikion for the Church in the Plagal First Tone

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 for the Final Judgement

When You come down to the earth, O God, in Your glory, all things will cower tremulous, and a river of fire will draw before Your Judgment Seat; the books shall be opened up, and public knowledge will things hidden be. Rescue me, then, I pray, from unquenchable fire, and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O You, the most righteous Judge.

Ὅταν ἔλθῃς ὁ Θεός, ἐπὶ γῆς μετὰ δόξης, καὶ τρέμωσι τὰ σύμπαντα, ποταμὸς δὲ τοῦ πυρὸς πρὸ τοῦ Βήματος ἔλκη, καὶ βίβλοι ἀνοίγωνται, καὶ τὰ κρυπτὰ δημοσιεύωνται, τότε ῥῦσαί με, ἐκ τοῦ πυρὸς τοῦ ἀσβέστου, καὶ ἀξιώσον, ἐκ δεξιῶν σου μὲ στήναι, Κριτὰ δικαιοσύνη.

~ ~ The 58th Chapter of Isaiah ~ ~

“Cry loudly, do not hold back; Raise your voice like a trumpet,
And declare to My people their wrongdoing, And to the house of Jacob their sins.

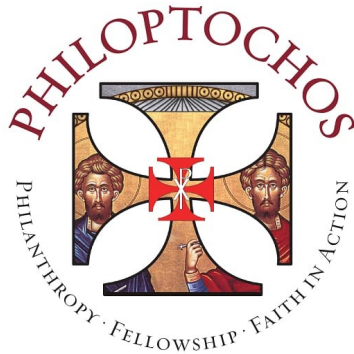
Yet they seek Me day by day and delight to know My ways, As a nation that has done righteousness
And has not forsaken the ordinance of their God. They ask Me *for* just decisions,
They delight in the nearness of God.

‘Why have we fasted and You do not see? *Why* have we humbled ourselves and You do not notice?’
Behold, on the day of your fast you find *your* desire, And oppress all your workers.
Behold, you fast for contention and strife, and to strike with a wicked fist.
You do not fast like *you have done* today to make your voice heard on high!

Is it a fast like this that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it for bowing one’s head like a reed
And for spreading out sackcloth and ashes as a bed?
Will you call this a fast, even an acceptable day to the Lord?
Is this not the fast that I choose: To release the bonds of wickedness,
To undo the ropes of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free,
And break every yoke? Is it not to break your bread with the hungry
And bring the homeless poor into the house; When you see the naked, to cover him;
And not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

Then your light will break out like the dawn, And your recovery will spring up quickly;
And your righteousness will go before you; The glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.
Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; You will cry for help, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’
If you remove the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness,
And *if* you offer yourself to the hungry And satisfy the need of the afflicted,
Then your light will rise in darkness, And your gloom *will become* like midday.
And the Lord will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorched places,
And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a watered garden,
And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail.
Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins;
You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach,
The restorer of the streets in which to dwell.

“If, because of the Sabbath, you restrain your foot From doing as you wish on My holy day,
And call the Sabbath a pleasure, *and* the holy *day* of the Lord honorable,
And honor it, desisting from your *own* ways,
From seeking your *own* pleasure And speaking *your own* word,
Then you will take delight in the Lord, And I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
And I will feed you *with* the heritage of Jacob your father, For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”



***JOIN US TODAY
FOR COFFEE HOUR***



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

Zafiria Kozaniti & Despina (Tina) Lemon

***Church Services & Events
for Today
& the Upcoming Week***

Today ~ Judgment Sunday (Meatfare)

8:45 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Godparent Sunday

Sunday School Carnivale

Tuesday ~ February 25, 2025

10:00 am Bible Study

5:00 pm Orthodoxy 101

6:00 pm AHEPA Meeting

Wednesday ~ February 26, 2025

6:00 pm Paraklesis

Thursday ~ February 27, 2025

6:00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday ~ March 1, 2025

10:00 am Romanian Liturgy

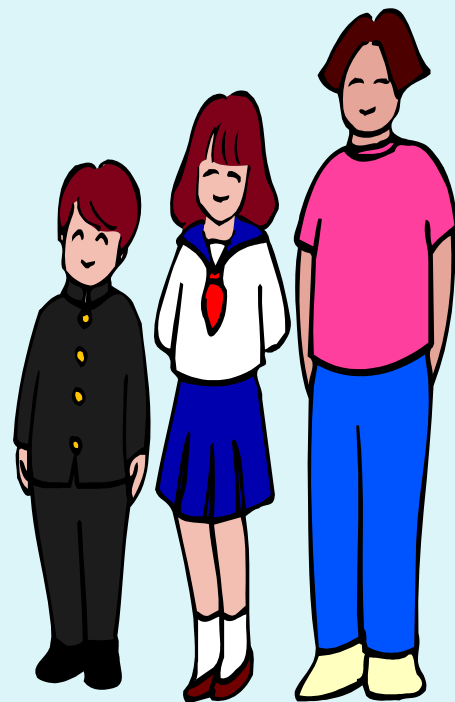
5:00 pm Great Vespers

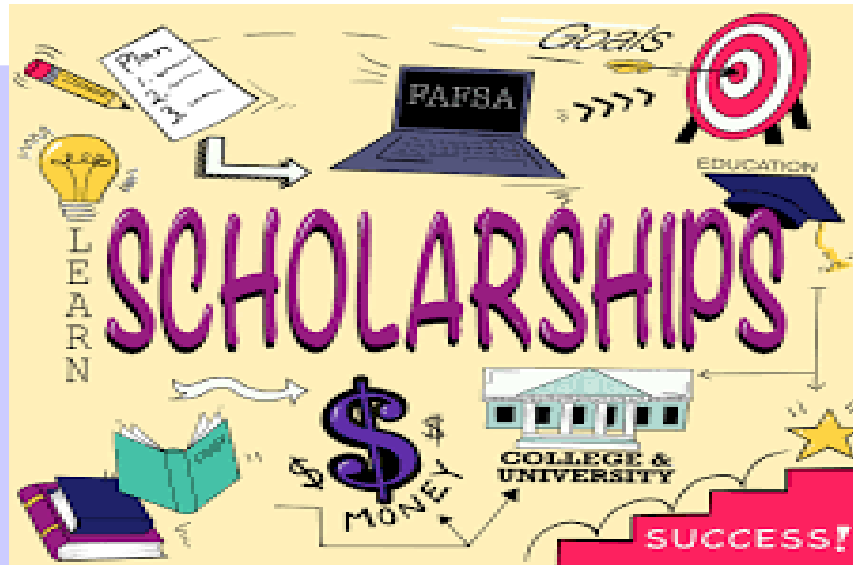
Today is Sunday School CARNIVALE

As we've done in years past,
we will be throwing
a Carnivale event today
for all of our youth
during Sunday School

After Communion
all students can come
directly downstairs
for food, Greek dancing,
games, crafts, and more!

Come join the fun
as we quickly
approach Lent!





***ATTENTION
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS***

NOW AVAILABLE

***Applications for
Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church,
Philoptochos & AHEPA
2025 Scholarships***

***Scholarship applicants
to complete ONLY ONE application form
for 2025 scholarships awarded to
Graduating High School students***

***Find your application on the church website
or pick up a copy from the Church Office/Copier Room***

***Acceptable submission of applications
and all requirements must be received
by noon on April 30, 2025***



Philoptochos Event
To benefit local Charities
Catered by Gardenview Diner

Sunday, March 2, 2025

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

\$10/PERSON

(Cash or check payable to: Philoptochos)

***PHILOPTOCHOS
CHEESEFARE SUNDAY
3/2/2025***

Reservations are required – to help us plan accordingly

Eat-in or Take-Out Available

Walk-ins welcome based on availability.

Please help us plan accordingly.

Menu items include:

**Tiropita or Spanakopita (pick one at time of reservation)
Macaroni and Cheese, Gigantes (Lima Beans Greek Style),
Salad & Dessert**

\$10.00 per person for a complete meal only

THERE ARE NO A-LA-CARTE OPTIONS

**RSVP by no later than 2/24/2025 - SUNDAY
after church services at the Philoptochos reservation table OR online**

<https://st-sophia-greek-orthodox-church.square.site/>

OR

Email: philoptochos@stsophias.org

(include contact #, full name, # in reservation, eat in or take out)



***GREAT and HOLY LENT
Begins Monday, March 3rd***





Please Join Us!

2025 PAN-ORTHODOX
LENTEN VESPERS

Schedule of Services
6:00 pm on Sundays
followed by a Fasting Meal

March 9, 2025

Sunday of Orthodoxy

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church
325 Waring Road ~ Syracuse, NY 13224

March 16, 2025

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church
4988 Onondaga Road ~ Syracuse, NY 13215

March 23, 2025

Sunday of the Holy Cross

Sts. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
401 Hamilton Street ~ Syracuse, NY 13204

March 30, 2025

Sunday of St. John Climacus

St. Luke's Ukrainian Orthodox Church
3290 Warners Road ~ Warners, NY 13164

April 6, 2025

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

St. George Macedonian Orthodox Church
5083 Onondaga Road ~ Syracuse, NY 13215

GODPARENT SUNDAY

TODAY—FEBRUARY 23, 2025



**TODAY—February 23 is Godparent Sunday
in our Archdiocese.**

**Even though we will not have our usual breakfast that day,
I urge all Godparents to bring their godchildren
to the Divine Liturgy to partake of Holy Communion.**

Father David