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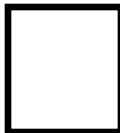
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St Theodore
Greek Orthodox Church
7101 Cipriano Road
Lanham, MD 20706



Time Sensitive Material



Saint Theodore

Greek Orthodox Church

Monthly Newsletter

November 2025



Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey
Church Office: 301-522-3540
office@sttheodores.org father@sttheodores.org
Church website www.sttheodores.org
For emergencies call Fr. Manuel J. Burdusi at 410-241-9690

Father's Message— "Our Spiritual Home"

Our personal home is safe and familiar. It is where we belong. Our Orthodox Christian Church is also our spiritual home. It is a place of prayer, comfort, spiritual healing, and celebration. We are at home in the fragrance of the incense, the sound of hymns and prayers, the physical touch of kneeling, bowing and making the sign of the cross, and the taste of Holy Communion and the blessed bread. You may have been brought to Church on your 40th day, or the Orthodox Church may have been the destination of your spiritual journey. For both, the Church is a spiritual home to which we may always return. We are brothers and sisters in Christ — a family. Our Church exists when the dispersed, divided, self-pre-occupied people unite and become a family, where people see one another as brothers and sisters with God as their common Father, and try to share whatever they have and whatever they are, and be united in heart and soul.

Our Church is so much more than a building. It is where we turn for comfort, support and healing. It is where we make true Christian friends that last a lifetime. No matter where we go in the world, we can come home to the Orthodox Church to be surrounded by the same familiar elements: altar, icon screen, pulpit, altar table, tabernacle, iconography, baptismal font, candles and more. Church is not so much a place as it is what we are together. We are called to be the Body of Christ to witness to God in the world. When we truly become members of the Church, transfigured by our faith and worship, we become what the Church was intended to be. We enter our spiritual home not to be entertained, but to be a part of a community of believers. We receive Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. As we pray, worship and serve together, we become His Body. To be truly a member of the Church as the Body of Christ requires our presence and our engagement with one another — in worship, study and service to others. We grow spiritually as a family. We give sacrificially as we acknowledge that all we have comes from God. "...in the Church we live eternal life starting from now. We do not simply await the life to come, but we experience and enjoy it from the present. The Kingdom of God is not life beyond the grave but communion with God now..."

From our spiritual home we are sent out as bearers of His light in the modern world, setting an example by our mutual understanding and love. As we do so, we pray for each other, listen and learn from each other, disagree respectfully, restore civility,

PARISH COUNCIL

President—

Pantelis Zairis

Vice President—

Timothy Halkos

Treasurer—

Nora Presti

Secretary—

Antoni Gemetzopoulos

Members—

Theodore Adamos

John Lazarou

Philip Plangetis

Gregory Skarvelis

Three Vacancies

PHILOPTOCHOS

President—

Helen Bekos

Vice Pres—

Maria Kapsalis

Treasurer—

Zoe Lazarou

Secretary—

Malama Burdusi

Advisor

Anthie Zairis

Board Members:

Nora Presti

Georgia Plangetis

Christina Villano

Alexandra Tsiglilis

Sunday School

Maria Banis Adamos

Georgia Plangetis

GOYA/YAL Advisors

John and Zoe Lazarou

Chanters

Juliana Moniodis

Paul Moniodis

A.Gementzopoulos



THE WINERY IS
PROUD TO BE A
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Wine, Spirits and Beer, Food, Events, Barrel Club

Open Daily except for Mondays at
11:30am. Greek Night with Live Music
Monthly

2315 Stewart Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-585-4100



Greek Night with Live Music

Saturday, November 15th 7—9 pm

Come listen to the velvety vocals of Spyros Koliavasilis—MD 2025 Heritage Award winner and the smooth sounds of his Rebetiko duo, Melos.

Taste the wide array of wines and cocktails at Urban Winery and explore the Greek Night menu.

Reservations:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/live-music-spyros-koliavasilis-with-melos-greek-night-tickets-1747864131669?aff=oddtcreator>

Stewardship List

As of 10/30/2025
95 stewards have
pledged \$58,268.63
Average pledge is
\$610.00. Annual pledges
vary from \$40 to \$5,000.
If your name does not
appear on this list,
please contact the
church office.

Adamos, Theodore & Maria
 Alevrofas, Victoria
 Alexion, Angelina
 Angelis, Bill
 Bakalides, Sirmatenia
 Banis, Nick & Eleni
 Bekos, Panagiotis & Helen
 Bickell, Brad & Eleni
 Bonner, TJ and Christina
 Burdusi, Fr Manuel & Malama
 Burdusi, Nicholas & Julie
 Burdusi Mosi, Aristeia & Krista
 Burnett, Doug & Olivia
 Caprinolo, Mary
 Cirillo, Christina and James
 DeFalco, Jessie
 Dimopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. Demetri
 Dimopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. John
 Exis, Ekaterina
 Fanourgakis, Angeliki
 Frantzis, Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios
 Galiatsatos, Spiro & Voula
 Gementzopoulos, Antonios & Alexandra
 Georhristodoulos, Mr & Mrs Andreas
 Gerohristodoulos, Anastasia
 Gionis, Paul
 Grow, Anna & Randy
 Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew

Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Timothy
 Herschbach, Dennis & Mary Pittas
 Hestnes, Dag & Phyllis
 Higgs, Veronica
 Hodge, Christa
 Johnsen, Peter & Maria
 Poulakis
 Jones, Angela
 Kakitsis, Kassiani
 Kapsalis, Panagos & Maria
 Karahalis, Olga
 Katcheves, Konstantina
 Katsakis, Angela & John
 Katsigiannakis, Evangelia and Georgios
 Key, Jackson
 Key, Julius
 Kiotsekoglou, Kyriakos & Argiro
 Kirby, Nicolette & Keith
 Kolazas, Athanasios & Marilu
 Koustenis, Maria
 Kretsis, Marianna
 Kretsis, Vasiliki
 Magoulas, Paula
 Malliakos, Mr & Mrs Assimios
 Malliakos Knepper, Christina & Joshua
 Malliakos Todd, Elizabeth and Andrew
 Manessis, Angelo
 Manessis, Ourania
 Manessis, Polymnia
 Manitaras, Alexandros & Eugenia
 Mantzouranis, Athanasia
 Mantzouranis, Vasiliki
 Marousis, Panagiotis
 Michaelides, Mr & Mrs Nicholas
 Miltiadou, Kyriacos
 Monioidis, Mr & Mrs Paul
 Tice-Myer, Mark & Katherine
 Orfanidis, Vasilika
 Papadopoulos, Afroditi

Papadopoulos, Miltiadis
 Papadopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios
 Paschalidis, Nick & Maria
 Pelekanos Georgios & Konstantina
 Perelas, John & Deborah
 VanDamm
 Plagakis Lester, Sofia & Patrick
 Plangetis, Phillip & Georgia
 Presti, William & Nora
 Romas, Georgia
 Sakaria, Elpis
 Sakaria, Mr & Mrs Raj
 Sakaria-Kori, Basu & Maria
 Scott, Deborah Ioanna
 Sergotick, Michael & Anna
 Siarmalis-Urrutia, Henry & Iliana
 Skarvelis, Greg & Anastasia
 Speropulos, James
 Stefanias, Maria & Panagiotis
 Tsiglifis, Vasilios & Alexandra
 Tsioumas, Maria
 Tsioumas, George & Majida
 Villano, Christina & Robert
 Walker, Michael & Tina
 Whitlock, Edward & Panagiota
 Yakas, Peter & Eleni
 Harlepas
 Zairis, Pantelis & Anthie
 Zick, Mr. & Mrs. Bob

YOUR NAME CAN BE
HERE NEXT MONTH.
MAKE A PLEDGE
TODAY

and find a common purpose. In our spiritual home, we grow together as we share our spiritual life. We give to support our beloved parish because when we give of our first fruits we set our priorities on God and have a constant reminder that all we are and all we have are His.

We are stewards of the Gospel and the stewards of our parish. We see our church, not as it is, but as it could be. We offer our treasures and ourselves sacrificially, so that, as members of the Body of Christ, we may reach our full potential in Him.

In Christ's Love,
Fr. Manuel

Parish Community News & Events

Welcome Presvytera Malama to the Church Staff

We welcome Presvytera Malama as the New Secretary of the Church office. Presvytera recently retired from UMBC after 40 years of service in two positions—Associate Director of Financial Aid and as the Quality Assurance Specialist. She is very qualified and available to help us improve communication to the parish and assisting the parish council with record keeping. Presvytera's family is from Limnos Greece and can speak Greek better than Fr. Manuel. She will be working at the office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays as well as online remotely.

Please welcome her to her new position by sending an email to presmalama@gmail.com and give her all the email addresses of your entire household. Next to each email also identify who is the bearer of the email. Our data base only has people's email addresses and there are many that we do not know who's email it belongs to. For example, luckylady123@gmail does not let us know who the recipient is. Thank you for your assistance on this first assignment. To help better our communication to you. Please send your email by November 15th at the latest.



Ladies Philoptochos Society

The Ladies Philoptochos Society has gotten off to a great start after being sworn in on Sunday, September 14th. A tray was passed for Holy Cross Seminary and \$250 was sent to the Theological School. Then they took on a big task of making and selling the pastries and sweets for our Festival on Sept 26-28. **A meeting was held on Sunday, November 2 after Church and the next one is Sunday, December 7th.** Many topics and future events were discussed yesterday. Some of them are Christmas Bake Sale, Ladies Bingo Night, and further helping the homeless and needy.



It looks like the meetings will be on the first Sunday of each month after the coffee hour unless otherwise specified. Join us for the next meeting.

Officers are President- Helen Bekos; Vice Pres- Maria Kap-salis; Treasurer- Zoe Lazarou; Secretary- Malama Burdusi and Advisor is Anthie

Zairis. Board Members are Nora Presti, Georgia Plangetis, Christina Villano and Alexandra Tsiglifis.

Feed the Hungry - Coats & Sweater Drive

Every year during the month of November and December we collect canned foods and other non perishable items for the homeless and also collect coats and sweaters, scarves and gloves for those less fortunate than us. You can start bringing things this coming Sunday and leave your items at the bar area of the social hall. We will be collecting up until the last Sunday before Christmas. We will also be establishing a food pantry here at our Church for anyone who would need use during these difficult times.

Also our young adults have started a program whereby they prepare food on the last Friday of the month and take it on the last Saturday of each month to a place in Washington where food is distributed. If anyone would like to help with this effort, donations can be made through the Church website earmarked for homeless meals. It averages \$150-\$200 per month to prepare the food and take it to the facility in DC. Thank you for donating to this worthy cause and God bless everyone this Thanksgiving and Christmas season and always.

Sunday School

Sunday School Classes have begun and are after Holy Communion and all children 4-16 are welcome to attend.

Greek Language Studies

You are invited to join the online Greek Class via Zoom. When: Every Wednesday 05:30- 07:00 PM Eastern Time. Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/7AoGpLxBT1CNJkw4y1pTsw>

Bible Study

Join us for our weekly Bible Study every Wednesday from 7—8:15 p.m. The Bible Study will become hybrid which means you can attend in person at the Church hall each Wednesday unless otherwise noted. You can also attend online and follow the bible study but we need to send to you the pdf of the passage we are reading via email. Also you must have a gmail account in order to attend online. The link for the bible study is as follows:

<https://meet.google.com/adh-cguj-cng>

Men's Fellowship Group

Every Friday from 7-8 p.m. we will be having a men's fellowship group which is geared to all men, but definitely young adult men who struggle with various issues to live the Orthodox Christian life to the best of their ability. We are currently discussing the readings from the book "Addiction and Grace" by Gerald May. Group meets every Friday unless otherwise noted.

Catechism Class

Everyone who is interested in learning about Orthodoxy or interested in becoming Greek Orthodox through baptism or chrismation is asked to attend the class every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. from now til Christmas. The class will be each Wednesday unless otherwise noted.

Stewardship Appeal

It is so vital for the progress of our Church that we are supportive on a regular basis. In order to be a supporting steward, please complete the Stewardship form online at **www.sttheodores.org** under Giving, or complete the form which is available in the Narthex where you light your candles. Stewardship payments can be made monthly directly from your bank to our Church. Please email **square@sttheodores.org** with your pledge and the desired frequency of your payments. Stewardship pledges and donations can also be mailed directly to the church by check. You can also set up with your checking account for a check to be mailed automatically from your bank to the Church, if desired. Smaller, regular payments are more easier to manage than a payment of one lump sum. Your ability to give is stronger when you contribute on a regular basis and the Church operates better.

Parish Assembly Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pursuant to the regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the Bylaws of the Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Theodore Lanham, Maryland, the date of the General Assembly meeting has been scheduled **for Sunday NOVEMBER 23, 2025**, following church services in Founder's Hall downstairs. According to Church By-Laws, those persons wishing to participate and vote must pay their Stewardship up to the date of the Assembly. A member of the Parish who is already enrolled in the Parish but has to pay his/her stewardship may pay the same day and before the beginning of the Assembly

All members of the Community are urged to attend this Parish Assembly, because of its importance. It is also our obligation as members of St.Theodore to come and offer our support for the progress of the church. Your presence is needed to establish a quorum.

CANDIDACY FORM FOR PARISH COUNCIL

All (11) positions for the parish council re-open as of January 1, 2026 and the term of office is for two years, 2026 and 2027. Those currently serving on the council may place their names in for another two years. Parishioners who have not served before or served many years ago, can also place their names for the council however please note: In accordance with the Uniform Parish Regulations, ***"A candidate for the Parish Council must be a parishioner in good standing of the Parish for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the election and must live his or her life in accordance with the Faith and canons of the Church. The Priest determines whether the Parishioners are in canonical and financial good standing."*** We urge parishioners in good standing who have the willingness, ability, and time to serve the church to submit this form anytime beginning today until the beginning of the Parish Assembly. You can also be present at the Assembly, on November 23, 2025, and be nominated at that time. Nominations will close at the General Assembly.

Candidacy Form for St. Theodore Parish Council

Name (Print)_____

Signature_____

Phone Number_____

E-mail address _____

November 2025 Calendar

Sun. Nov. 2— 9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy
Tue. Nov. 4— 7 pm Parish Council
Wed. Nov. 5— 5:30pm Greek Class, 6pm Catechism, 7pm Bible Study
Fri. Nov. 7— No Men's Fellowship Group
Sat. Nov. 8— **Feast of the Archangels**
9 am Orthros, 10am Divine Liturgy
Sun. Nov. 9— **Feast of St. Nectarios**
9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy, 4 pm Metropolis Awards Banquet
Mon. Nov. 10— 11 am Metropolis Council meetings
Tue. Nov. 11— 11 am Metropolis Clergy Syndesmos
Wed. Nov. 12— 5:30pm Greek Class, 6pm Catechism, 7pm Bible Study
Fri. Nov. 14— 6pm Men's Fellowship Group
Sat. Nov. 15— Christmas Advent Season begins
Sun. Nov. 16— **St. Matthew the Evangelist**
9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy
Wed. Nov. 19— 5:30pm Greek Class, 6pm Catechism, 7pm Bible Study
Fri. Nov. 21— **Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos**
9 am Orthros, 10am Divine Liturgy;
No Men's Fellowship Group tonight
Sun. Nov. 23— 9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy;
Parish Assembly meeting after Church
Wed. Nov. 26— No classes due to Thanksgiving Weekend
Thu. Nov. 27— Happy Thanksgiving. Office Closed Thursday and Friday Nov. 28.
Sun. Nov. 30— **Feast of St. Andrew the First Called**
9 am Orthros, 10:30 am Divine Liturgy

SAVE THE DATE AND TIME

Upcoming Christmas Services 2025

Christmas Eve Morning, Wednesday December 24th
10a.m. Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Night, Wednesday, December 24th
9 p.m. Orthros of Christmas
10 p.m. The Divine Liturgy of Christmas (will conclude

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM 2026

As Orthodox Christians, we are called to be stewards of our Church. When we are faithful to this calling, then our Lord will say to us as he did to the faithful steward, "Well done good and faithful servant" (Mt 25:23).

NAME	MOBILE PHONE
NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)	MOBILE PHONE
STREET ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS
CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE	EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)
HOME PHONE	

In gratitude for God's many blessings, I/we commit to the stewardship of St. Theodore's and pledge the following amount..

\$_____ per month x 12 months = \$_____ for the year.

Suggested amounts for giving:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ \$10 per week (\$520/yr) | ☐ \$40/mon (\$480) | ☐ \$ 400/yr |
| ☐ \$15 per week (\$780 /yr) | ☐ \$50/mon (\$600) | ☐ \$ 500/yr |
| ☐ \$20 per week (\$1040 /yr) | ☐ \$75/mon (\$900) | ☐ \$ 1,000/yr |
| ☐ \$25 per week (\$1300 /yr) | ☐ \$100/mon (\$1,200) | ☐ \$ 1,500/yr |
| ☐ \$50 per week (\$2600 /yr) | ☐ \$150/mon (\$1,800) | ☐ \$ 2,000/yr |
| ☐ Other per week \$_____ | ☐ Other per month \$_____ | ☐ Other \$_____ |

VERY IMPORTANT

To help with printing costs and conserve on paper we agree to receive the Parish Newsletter by e-mail only. ☐ Yes

Please check to indicate that St. Theodore's Church is your primary place of worship. ☐

Signature: _____

Once you make your pledge, you have the entire year to fulfill your pledge. You can pay by cash, check, through PAYPAL, or even through Bill Pay through your bank's checking account. You can also make a payment by going to our Church's website: www.sttheodores.org and click the "Online Store" to make a credit card payment. Children 18 and over and who are working should become members separate from their parents. Children in college or graduate school can remain under their parent's membership but should still fill out this form.

Make payments to: St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church, 7101 Cipriano Rd., Lanham, MD 20723.

Dependent Children's names and birthdates:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Your time & talent

I would like to offer my time and talents for the ministry of St. Theodore's ☒ (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Church School | ☐ GOYA/YOUTH |
| ☐ Greek School/PTO | ☐ Young Adult |
| ☐ Chanting | ☐ Bible Study |
| ☐ Philoptochos | ☐ Baking Prophora |
| ☐ Festival | ☐ Grounds and Maintenance |
| ☐ Fundraising | ☐ Altar Boy |
| ☐ Dance Group | ☐ Flowers/Decorations |
| | ☐ Other _____ |

Saint Theodore Annual Community Christmas Card

Dear members & friends of St. Theodore Church:

The time has come for the Church to prepare its annual Christmas card. It is an opportunity for you to spread the cheer and joy of our Lord's Birth and support the Church. If you wish that your name be included on the card, please complete, detach and mail the bottom portion of this mailing with your minimum donation of \$25.00 made out to **St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church by Sunday, December 7th, 2025.**

2025 Annual Christmas Card—**Donation \$25**

Saint Theodore Greek Orthodox Church

7101 Cipriano Road

Lanham, MD 20706

(Print clearly as you wish your name to appear in card)

Name: _____

Address _____

~~~~~

## Poinsettia Sale

Join the St. Theodore Community as we decorate and beautify the church in celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## Minimum Donation is \$20.00 per plant

How many \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_ phone number \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ For the health of \_\_\_\_\_

All Names will be commemorated during the Divine Liturgy for Christmas on Christmas Eve Night.

You may take your poinsettia home after New Year's service.