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ST. THEODORE THE GENERAL
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

info@sttheodores.org

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1/4 PAGE:

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12 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$125.00

1/2 PAGE:

6 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$100.00
12 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$175.00

FULL PAGE:

6 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$150.00
12 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$250.00

OUR NEWSLETTER reaches
our extended community
via mail, email and web every month

For more information call: 301-552-3540

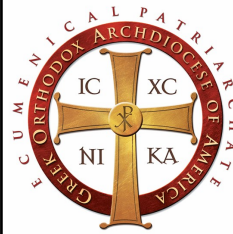


THE WINERY IS
PROUD TO BE A
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Open Daily except for Mondays at
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Monthly

2315 Stewart Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910
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**Saint Theodore
Greek Orthodox Church
Monthly Newsletter
APRIL 2026**



Office: 301-552-3540 office@sttheodores.org
Church website www.sttheodores.org
7101 Cipriano Road Lanham, MD 20706

Father's Message

Preparing for the Passion & Resurrection of our Lord

Holy Week is the week before Easter when we relive Christ's suffering and Death. During Holy Week we follow the footsteps of Christ, who passed from Death to Life. Open your heart to Christ. The events of Holy Week are the most moving of the year. To get the most out of them, participate in each day's services. Make prayer, fasting, confession, and Holy Communion essential parts of your Holy Week.

LAZARUS SATURDAY AND PALM SUNDAY introduce us to Holy Week and Christ's journey to the Cross. On Lazarus Saturday, we find that death is the enemy that Christ came to conquer, and that Christ is truly the Giver of Life! We, too, receive the promise of new life. **PALM SUNDAY** celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Jesus entered the city on a donkey. The people met him with palm branches and cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" Christ came as King of Israel. He showed he was the triumphant but humble Messiah. We receive palm branches made into crosses to show that we too accept Jesus as King, and that we are willing to follow Him to the Cross.

On **PALM SUNDAY EVENING, HOLY MONDAY AND HOLY TUESDAY EVENINGS**, we have the **SERVICE OF THE BRIDEGROOM**. This service helps us to understand Christ's passage from death to life -- and how each of us can also become free from sin and death. So we commemorate **CHRIST THE BRIDEGROOM**, by singing the "Hymn of the Bridegroom" warning us to be prepared for Christ's coming. The priest carries the Icon of Christ the Bridegroom in procession. We behold Christ as the Bridegroom of the Church, bearing the marks of suffering, yet preparing a marriage Feast for us in God's Kingdom.

HOLY WEDNESDAY EVENING Service asks us to repent of our sins and to forgive others. The Sacrament of Holy Oil or Unction is celebrated as we seek to be reconciled with God. The priest anoints us with holy oil that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

On **HOLY THURSDAY MORNING**, we celebrate the Last Supper Jesus ate with His disciples. At the Last Supper, Jesus offered Himself as the true food for all of us. The bread and wine of this meal became the Body and Blood that gives us eternal life.

On **HOLY THURSDAY EVENING** at sunset begins **GOOD FRIDAY**, which is a day of mourning, fasting and prayer. We commemorate the Passion of Jesus Christ. On this day, our Lord went to the Cross and died to take away our sins. The power of death and the reality of evil rule the world on this dreadful day. Yet, Jesus Christ's death marks the beginning of His and our victory over death's power. Twelve Gospel readings are read from the Four Gospels relating the events of Jesus' Holy



Join us for the annual
Ladies' Philoptochos of St Theodore

Palm Sunday

FISH LUNCHEON & TSOUREKI SALE

Month	Date	Year
04	05	26

In Founders' Hall,
following church service

7101 Cipriano Road, Lanham MD 20706

ADULT - \$25
STUDENT - \$10
CHILDREN 12 & YOUNGER - FREE
TSOUREKIA (limited quantities!) - \$15 each

Pre-order online or in church!
www.sttheodores.org in the Philoptochos Store



Parish Community News & Events

Ladies Philoptochos Society

The next meeting of Philoptochos will be some time after Easter and will be after church and coffee hour. Meetings will be scheduled on the first Sunday of each month after the coffee hour unless otherwise specified.

Making of Palm Crosses and Lazarakia Breads

On Friday April 3rd, we will be making palm crosses for Palm Sunday and also baking traditional Lazarakia Breads for Saturday of Lazarus. Please plan on coming to help. Everyone is invited. We will begin at 6 p.m. and conclude by 9 p.m. and will be taking place downstairs in the social hall.

Donations for Lent and Holy Week

There are things that are needed for Holy Week for the many services and traditions of the parish. If you are interested in helping, please see Fr. Manuel or you can make your donation online and Father can let you know what items are still needed. Thank you.

PARTICIPATION OF THE CHILDREN IN TWO SERVICES

We would love to have all the children participate in two special services this year. The first is on Palm Sunday where the children are invited to walk around the church with Father and hold palm branches up in the air and proclaim the arrival of our King, the Lord Jesus as our Saviour and welcome Him into our hearts. All the children are asked to sit at the front of the Church for Palm Sunday services.

The second service is on Good Friday evening where the children will assist us both boys and girls, the boys representing the soldiers guarding the tomb, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus while the girls will represent the myrrh bearing women who went to the tomb to anoint Christ's body and hold vigil at His tomb. Please have them join us by 6:30 p.m. on Friday.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE— Listed below are all the families and individuals who pledged and contributed to the Stewardship Program last year.

We thank the families who have already pledged and made payments for 2026 and they are found here in the **bold font**. Make your name **bold** next month by filling out the stewardship form or making a payment online or by a check mailed to the church. Thank you.

Adamos, Theodore & Maria Alevrofas, Victoria Alexion, Angelina Aloimonos, Dr Ioannis & Cornelia M. Fermuller 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 Ferron, Johanson Frantzis, Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios Galiatsatos, Andreas Galiatsatos, Spiro & Voula Gementzopoulos, Antonios & Alexandra Georhristodoulos, Mr & Mrs Andreas Geralis, Mrs. Angie Gerohristodoulou, Anastasia Gionis, Paul Goumis, Demetres G. Grow, Anna & Randy Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Tim Hallas Family 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 Kilos, Evangelos J. Kiotsekoglou, Kyriakos & Argiro Kiotsekoglou, Evlambia Kirby, Nicolette & Keith Kolazas, Thanasi & Marilu Koukoulis, Nick & Karin Koustenis, Maria Kretsis, Marianna Kretsis, Vasiliki Lazarou, John & Zoe Magoulas, Paula Malliakos, Mr & Mrs Assimios Malliakos Knepper, Christina & Joshua Malliakos Todd, Elizabeth and Andrew Manassis, Angelos Manassis, Ourania Manassis, Polymnia Manitaras, Alexandros & Eugenia Mantzouranis, Athanasia Mantzouranis, Vasiliki Marousis, Panagiotis Michaelides, Mr & Mrs Nicholas Miltiadou, Kyriacos Moniodis, Mr & Mrs Paul Tice-Myer, Mark & Katherine Orfanidis, Vasilia O'Rourke, Ryan & Nicole 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, Anthony Presti, William & Nora Rallis, Mr. Georgios Rallis, Gregory Romas, Georgia Sakaria, Mr & Mrs Raj SakariaKori, Basu & Maria Samara, Marilia & Michell, Robert Scott, Deborah Ioanna Sergotick, Michael & Anna Siarmalis-Urrutia, Henry & Iliana Singer, Zac & Victoria Skarvelis, Greg & Anastasia Speropulos, James Stefanias, Maria & Panagiotis Svihra, Daniel & Shea Theodorou, Toumazos & Loukia Townsend, John Tsigliffis, Vasilios & Alexandra Tsioumas, Maria Tsioumas, George & Majida Veronis, Vicky & Michael Villano, Christina & Robert Walker, Michael & Tina Whitlock, Edward & Panagiotia Yakas, Peter & Eleni Harlepas Zairis, Pantelis & Anthie Zick, Mr. & Mrs. Bob
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**YOUR NAME GOES
HERE WHEN YOU
PLEDGE FOR 2026**

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:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 per week (\$520/yr) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40/mon (\$480) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 400/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 per week (\$780 /yr) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50/mon (\$600) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 500/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 per week (\$1040 /yr) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75/mon (\$900) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,000/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 per week (\$1300 /yr) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100/mon (\$1,200) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,500/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 per week (\$2600 /yr) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150/mon (\$1,800) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 2,000/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other per week \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other per month \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 20706.

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)

<input type="checkbox"/> Church School	<input type="checkbox"/> GOYA/YOUTH
<input type="checkbox"/> Greek School/PTO	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult
<input type="checkbox"/> Chanting	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study
<input type="checkbox"/> Philoptochos	<input type="checkbox"/> Prosporhon/Kollyva
<input type="checkbox"/> Festival	<input type="checkbox"/> Grounds and Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Altar Server
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers/Decorations
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Holy Week and Easter — Schedule of Services 2026

- Saturday, April 04- **Saturday of Lazarus** 9 a.m. Orthros, 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- Sunday, April 05- **PALM SUNDAY** 9 a.m, Orthros, 10:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy & the Blessing of the Palms
6 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom; procession of Icon of Christ the Bridegroom
- Monday, April 06- **Holy Monday** 6 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom
- Tuesday, April 07- **Holy Tuesday** 6 p.m. Service of the Bridegroom and the Hymn of Sister Kassiane.
- Wednesday, April 08 - **Holy Wednesday** 6 p.m. Service of Holy Unction; Everyone who is Orthodox is to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Holy Prayer Oil.
- Thursday, April 09- **Holy Thursday** 10 a.m. Vespers Liturgy of the Last Supper
6 p.m. Reading of the 12 Gospels & the Procession of Christ Crucified.
- Friday, April 10- **GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY**
9 a.m.—12 noon Kouvouklion/Epitaphios to be decorated
10 a.m. Royal Hours to be read;
1:00 p.m. Great Vespers of the Taking Down of Christ from the Cross;
6 p.m. The Lamentations to Christ & the Procession of the Kouvouklion/Epitaphios outside
- Saturday, April 11- **GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY**
10 a.m. Great & Holy Vespers Liturgy of the First Resurrection;
Preparations for Easter 12 noon;
11 p.m. Easter Vigil begins; 12 Midnight Resurrectional Service Outside followed by the Orthros & Divine Liturgy of Great & Holy EASTER
- Sunday, April 12 - **EASTER SUNDAY** 12 noon Great Vespers of Easter—Service of Agape, Gospel to be read in several languages.



**HELP BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH
FOR EASTER**

To Purchase Easter Lilies
go to the church website at
www.sttheodores.org and
specify either in memory or for the
health of your loved ones.
Each lily plant is \$20.00
Orders can be submitted until Good
Friday, April 10th.



Flowers for the Epitaphios

Our beloved Ladies of the
Philoptochos are accepting
donations for flowers to decorate
the wooden sepulchre and
Epitaphios Icon
of Christ in the Tomb.
Donations can be made online at
the St. Theodore Philoptochos
Store or by check or cash and
envelopes are provided in the
Narthex of our Church.
Kali Anastasi!



Join us as the Easter Bunny
arrives to the Palm Sunday Lunch-
eon and gives a gift bag
to each of the children.
You can take your photo with the
Easter Bunny !!!