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**OUR NEWSLETTER reaches  
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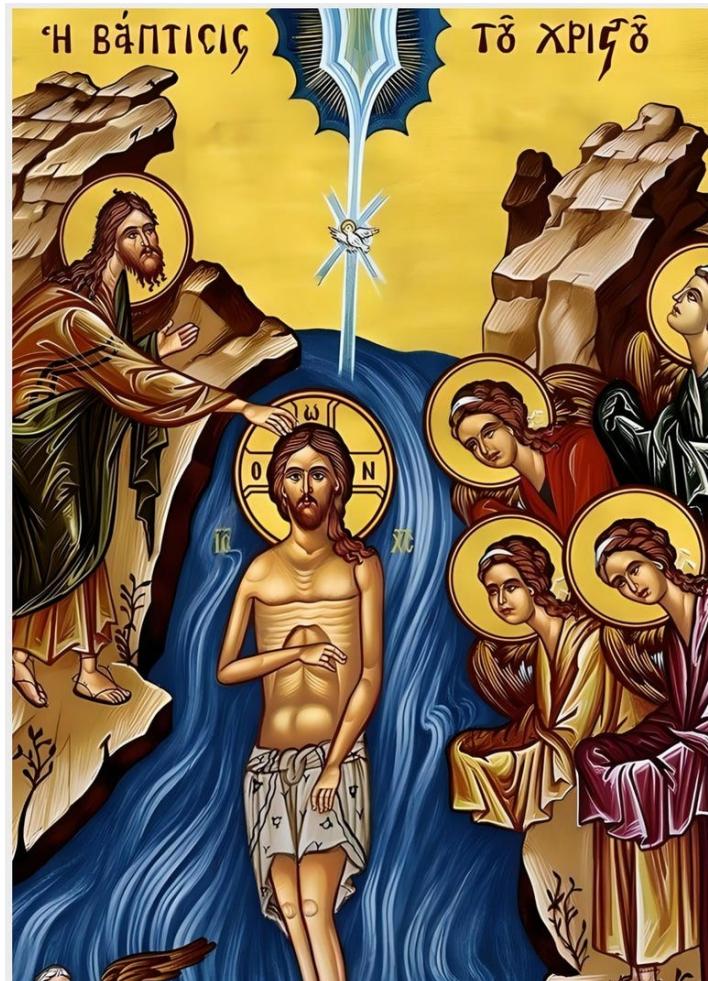
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**Saint Theodore  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Monthly Newsletter**  
**January 2026**



**Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey**  
301-552-3540 [office@sttheodores.org](mailto:office@sttheodores.org)  
Church website [www.sttheodores.org](http://www.sttheodores.org)

## Father's Message

The start of each New Year has with it many promises, new possibilities, much hope and vision. The New Year greets us with much enthusiasm and the Lord is always ready to help us in our efforts and in our making a deeper commitment to Him and to the Church.



Jesus can give us the help and guidance to do the things that we cannot do alone. He is within us ready to help, but we have to want Him to help us in order for Him to truly help us. He loves us so much that He will not invade our lives, if we don't want Him to. He will come to you when you want it. Christ can give us a new spirit, a new heart, and better relations with others, with ourselves, and with the Lord.

Let us leave behind what we need to leave behind, and let us embrace that which is before us now, which is today, this moment, not last year, not two years from now, but today. Yesterday is past, we cannot undo or bring back or redo what is done. It is gone forever. The future does not exist because it hasn't come yet. The only thing before us that is real is the present, today.

Let us be formed in the image and likeness of God. May Christ bless you and your family and may your life be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit so that He may come and abide with you each and every day. Let us ask him each morning in our prayers to come and abide in us just like the "Heavenly King" prayer says: "O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who are present everywhere in all places and filling all things, the Treasury of good things and the Giver of Life, come and dwell in us, cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Good One. Amen."

- Fr. Manuel



Mark Your Calendars Now and Save the Date  
Saturday, February 14, 2026 You can reserve tickets now!

## 2025 STEWARDSHIP HONOR ROLL

We thank all the families and individuals who pledged and contributed to the 2025 Stewardship Program.

Lets us now begin the 2026 campaign and respond as soon as we can.

Adamos, Theodore & Maria	Johnsen, Peter & Maria Poulakis	Perelas, John & Deborah VanDamm
Alevrofas, Victoria	Jones, Angela	Plagakis Lester, Sofia & Patrick
Alexion, Angelina	Kakitsis, Kassiani	Plangetis, Phillip & Georgia
Aloimonos, Dr Ioannis & Cornelius M. Fermuller	Kapsalis, Panagos & Maria Karahalis, Olga	Presti, Anthony
Angelis, Bill	Katcheves, Konstantina	Presti, William & Nora
Bakalides, Sirmatenia	Katsakis, Angela & John	Rallis, Mr. Georgios
Banis, Nick & Eleni	Katsigianakis, Evangelia and Georgios	Rallis, Gregory
Bekos, Panagiots & Helen	Key, Jackson	Romas, Georgia
Bickell, Brad & Eleni	Key, Julius	Sakaria, Elpis
Bonner, TJ and Christina	Kiotsekoglou, Kyriakos & Argiro	Sakaria, Mr & Mrs Raj Sakaria-Kori, Basu & Maria
Burdusi, Fr Manuel & Malama	Kirby, Nicolette & Keith Kolazas, Athanasios & Marilu	Scott, Deborah Ioanna Sergotick, Michael & Anna Siarmalis-Urrutia, Henry & Iliana
Burdusi, Nicholas & Julie	Koukoulis, Nick & Karin Kretsis, Marianna	Skarvelis, Greg & Anastasia
Burdusi Mosi, Aristea & Krista	Kretsis, Vasiliki	Speropoulos, James
Burnett, Doug & Olivia	Magoulas, Paula	Stefanias, Maria & Panagiotis
Caprinolo, Mary	Mallakos, Mr & Mrs Assimios	Svhra, Daniel & Shea Theodorou, Toumazos & Loukia
Cirillo, Christina and James	Mallakos Knepper, Christina & Joshua	Tsiglifis, Vasilios & Alexandra
DeFalco, Jessie	Mallakos Todd, Elizabeth and Andrew	Tsioumas, Maria
Dimopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. Demetri	Manessis, Angelos	Tsioumas, George & Majida
Dimopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. John	Manessis, Ourania	Veronis, Vicky & Michael Villano, Christina & Robert
Exis, Ekaterina	Manessis, Polymnia	Walker, Michael & Tina Whitlock, Edward & Panagiota
Fanourgakis, Angeliki	Manitaras, Alexandros & Eugenia	Yakas, Peter & Eleni Harlepas
Frantzis, Mr. & Mrs. Dimitrios	Mantzouranis, Athanasia	Zairis, Pantelis & Anthie
Galiatsatos, Andreas	Mantzouranis, Vasiliki	Zick, Mr. & Mrs. Bob
Galiatsatos, Spiro & Voula	Marousis, Panagiots	
Gementzopoulos, Antonios & Alexandra	Michaelides, Mr & Mrs Nicholas	
Georhristodoulos, Mr & Mrs Andreas	Miltiadou, Kyriacos	
Geralis, Mrs. Angie	Moniodis, Mr & Mrs Paul Tice-Myer, Mark & Katherine	
Gerohristodoulos, Anastasia	Orfanidis, Vasilis	
Gionis, Paul	O'Rourke, Ryan & Nicole	
Grow, Anna & Randy	Papadopoulos, Afroditi	
Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew	Papadopoulos, Miltiadis	
Halkos, Mr. & Mrs. Timothy	Papadopoulos, Mr. & Mrs. Vasilios	
Herschbach, Dennis & Mary Pittas	Paschalidis, Nick & Maria	
Hestnes, Dag & Phyllis	Pelekanos Georgios & Konstantina	

## Parish Community News & Events

### 2026 Calendars

The Church calendars are being distributed every Sunday after Church at the coffee hour. Please come and get your Calendar during one of the Sundays of January. We are not mailing them out to the whole congregation due to the rising cost of postage, but you can come and get one. Only a few calendars have been mailed out to shut-ins/elderly parishioners who cannot come. Call the office 301-552-3540. Thank you for your understanding.

### Ladies Philoptochos Society

**The first meeting of the New Year will be held on Sunday, January 11th after church and coffee hour.** Various topics and events will be discussed. The meetings will be scheduled on the first Sunday of each month after the coffee hour unless otherwise specified. Join us for the next meeting.

Also the Philoptochos will have a large Vasilopita on January 11th to be blessed and cut. Each parishioner will have the opportunity to receive a blessed piece of the Vasilopita as well as making a contribution for the only Greek Orthodox Orphanage in America, St. Basil's Academy in New York. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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.

## January 2026 Calendar

Thur, Jan 1— **St. Basil the Great & New Years Day**

9 a.m. Orthros, 10:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy of St. Basil

Sun, Jan 4— **Sunday before Epiphany**

9 a.m. Orthros, 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Mon, Jan 5— **Eve of Epiphany**— Strict Fast Day

10 a.m. Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil followed by the Blessing of the Holy Waters.

Tues, Jan 6— **Epiphany of our Lord, His Baptism**—

9a.m. Orthros, 10:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Blessings of the Waters

Wed, Jan 7— **Feast of St. John the Baptist**

9 a.m. Orthros and 10:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Sun Jan 11— 9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Vasilopita Cutting; Philoptochos Meeting.

Sat Jan 17— **St. Anthony the Great** 9am Orthros,  
10:15am Divine Liturgy

Sun Jan 18— 9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy  
Community Calendar Planning Meeting for  
2026 after Church at coffee hour

Sun Jan 25— 9am Orthros, 10:30am Divine Liturgy

Fri Jan 30— **The Three Hierarchs** 9am Orthros,  
10:15am Divine Liturgy



## 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 \$ _____

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.sttheodore.org](http://www.sttheodore.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)

<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"/> Baking Prophora
<input type="checkbox"/> Festival	<input type="checkbox"/> Grounds and Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Altar Boy
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers/Decorations
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	