Our Monthly News
St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church
Lanham, Maryland
Volume 15, Issue 8  August 2023
Celebrating 50 years

A New Metropolitan for the Sacred Metropolis of New Jersey

The Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate convened on July 24, and elected His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia as the new Metropolitan of New Jersey. His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros shared the following reflections: “With profound joy, I extend my fervent congratulations to His Eminence Apostolos on his election to the seat of the Metropolitan of New Jersey. I pray that our Lord grants him wisdom and abundant blessings as he assumes the sacred duties entrusted to him by our Church. The Metropolis has devotedly served our Archdiocese as a priest in the Metropolis of Boston and the Archdiocesan District, as Chancellor of the Metropolis of San Francisco, as Chief Secretary to the Holy Eparchial Synod, and as a faithful and capable custodian of the liturgical and pastoral responsibilities of the Metropolis of New Jersey. I hold steadfast confidence that his spiritual gifts and experience and knowledge will guide his ministry in fruitful and loving service of our Greek Orthodox parishes in the Metropolis of New Jersey. We are deeply grateful to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Their decision illuminates a path of renewal as we continue to build an Archdiocese that is ever more united, empowered, and dedicated to fulfilling its sacred mission.”

His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos was born Evangelos Koufallakis on the island of Rhodes, Greece, the second of four children of Ioannis and Stergia Koufallakis. He completed his primary education in Rhodes, and in 1990, he was accepted to the historical Ecclesiastical School of Patmos, where he mastered Orthodox Byzantine Music and Hymnology. On April 29, 1993, Evangelos was tonsured a monk at the Holy and Sacred Monastery of Panagia Parametha, at which time he received the name “Apostolos.” On June 20, he was ordained to the holy Diaconate by his spiritual father Metropolitan Apostolos of Rhodes. Fr. Apostolos served the Metropolis of Rhodes as deacon to the Metropolitan, and a year later, he received the Offikion of Archdeacon. In October of 1995, Fr. Apostolos was accepted at the University of Thessaloniki studying Pastoral and Social Theology. He was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on July 28, 1996 and received the Offikion of Archdeacon. He served the Metropolis of  Boston and the Archdiocesan District, as Church Secretary to the Holy Eparchial Synod, and as a faithful and capable custodian of the liturgical and pastoral responsibilities of the Metropolis of New Jersey. I hold steadfast confidence that his spiritual gifts and experience and knowledge will guide his ministry in fruitful and loving service of our Greek Orthodox parishes in the Metropolis of New Jersey. We are deeply grateful to His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Their decision illuminates a path of renewal as we continue to build an Archdiocese that is ever more united, empowered, and dedicated to fulfilling its sacred mission.”

His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos in services as the canonical hierarch, starting July 24.

On October 11, 2001, Archimandrite Apostolos traveled to the United States and was accepted to Boston University School of Theology with a major in Philosophy, Theology, and Ethics. The degree of Master of Sacred Theology was conferred upon him in May 2004. In March of 2009, Archbishop Demetrios appointed Archimandrite Apostolos as the director of the Archdiocesan Hellenic Cultural Center. In October 2011, Archimandrite Apostolos was appointed as the Chancellor of the Metropolis of San Francisco by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco. On November 28, 2014, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate unanimously elected Archimandrite Apostolos to the rank of Auxiliary Bishop and he was given the title Bishop of Medeia. His ordination took place on December 20, 2014 at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York. On November 15, 2018, Bishop Apostolos was appointed Chief Secretary of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. On January 9, 2019 His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios appointed Bishop Apostolos to be the spiritual advisor of the National Greek Orthodox Philoptochos Society. Bishop Apostolos was tasked with the planning and organization of the Enthronement Service of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros which took place on June 22, 2019. On February 3, 2021 His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros appointed Bishop Apostolos to the Seat of the Metropolitan of New Jersey. His election to the Metropolis of New Jersey was announced on March 1, 2021. On April 9, 2021, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros appointed Bishop Apostolos as the new Metropolitan of New Jersey. On May 22, 2021, Bishop Apostolos was formally installed as the new Metropolitan of New Jersey by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The enthronement of Bishop Apostolos took place on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Saint John the Theologian in Tenafly, New Jersey. We exclaim AXIOS to His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos.
AUGUST LENTEN SEASON

The Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on August 15. The Feast commemorates the repose or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos. The Lenten season of August for the Virgin Mary will begin on August 1st through August 14th. We are all encouraged to abstain and fast from meat for the first fourteen days of August in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition, with the exception of fish on the Feast of the Transfiguration (August 6). Paraklesis Services will be held on the following days: Wednesday, August 2nd; Friday, August 4th; Monday, August 7th; Wednesday, August 9th; and Friday, August 11th at 6pm. Services for Holy Transfiguration will be Sunday, August 6th with Orthros at 9AM and Divine Liturgy at 10:15AM. On Monday, August 14, 2023, we will be having a Great Vesper’s service for the Dormition of the Theotokos at 6pm. On Tuesday, August 15, 2023, we will be celebrating the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. Orthros will begin at 9AM and the Divine Liturgy at 10:00AM. Everyone is encouraged to attend and pray to the Blessed Mother for her to protect us and guide us to salvation through Her Son. You are welcome to submit the names of the Living for these special services as we pray for the health and well-being of all. Please see form in bulletin.

MEMORIALS

On July 16, 2023 there was a 40-Day Memorial for the soul of Chrysanthi Alatzas, the dearly departed wife of Philip Alatzas, and beloved mother of Maria & Bryan Formica, Anna & Michael Sergotick, Petros & Natalie Alatzas. May her memory be eternal

ARTOCLASIA – Blessing of the Loaves of Bread

On July 2, 2023, there was an Artoclasia for the health and well being of the Papanicolaou family.

HONORING ST. PHANOURIOS THE GREAT MARTYR

We will be blessing Fanouropites Breads on Sunday, August 27th at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to prepare one of these breads and have them blessed, please bring them before 10:30 a.m. to the Liturgy. These are made in honor of St. Phanourios in thanksgiving of the help of the saint especially to find things that you may have lost.

OBITUARY GEORGE E. BOURZIKOS

JANUARY 5, 1951 – JUNE 11, 2023

George E. Bourzikos

On Sunday, June 11, 2023, George E. Bourzikos of Silver Spring, MD passed away. He was the beloved husband of Mary Bourzikos; loving father of Toula, Evie and Elpidos Bourzikos; dear brother of John, Voula, Stavros, Takis and Dimitri Bourzikos; also survived by his nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 721 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, MD on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 from 10 am until 11 am where funeral service will immediately follow at 11 am. Interment will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society. Should friends and family desire to send floral tributes, please have them delivered to Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home no later than 4 pm Monday, June 19, 2023. You can leave a message of condolence at www.hinesrinaldifuneralhome.com.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

On Saturday August 19th we will be having a community yard sale in our social hall from 9a to 3p. Everyone is encouraged to attend. You can help in several ways – 1) you can bring items to the church hall starting tomorrow to be sold. 2) you can volunteer to help the day of or Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, August 16, 17 and 18 from 10 am to 2 pm prior to the yard sale. You can also sign up to help the day of the yard sale. Food and drink will also be available for purchase.

FLOWERS BEFORE CHRIST & PANAGIA

You are welcome to donate flowers before the icons of Christ and Panagia. You can make a donation in memory of a loved one or for the health of your family. Call the Church office Monday – Thursday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. so that we can order the flowers from a professional florist and have the flowers delivered on Friday afternoon. The cost is $150.00 for both vases of flowers before Christ & Panagia or $75.00 for one vase before Christ or Panagia and two people or two families can donate each vase.
50TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING

An easy way to have a fund-raising effort that everyone can participate in to help with the many expenses for the Anniversary celebration. Just as a wedding is a very costly but worthy endeavor and memorable event for the couple, a Church anniversary also incurs expenses that are not part of the normal yearly budget. We are grateful to be a part of the 50th Anniversary of the Church and help in whatever way we can. There will be 100 envelopes between $1.00 and $100.00 dollars for you to make your donation to the Church. If all the envelopes are submitted, $5000 will be raised. We will do this now at the beginning and again in the Fall, September – November. There will be many expenses to have the Archbishop of America come in December and his entourage. They will need to be placed in a hotel and we are to have their tickets to the banquet complimentary as well as the tickets of all the past priests who have served the church and the area priests. This along with other special expenses add up. We pray that you have an unforgettable experience this year for our 50th Anniversary. The chart will be updated so that we can achieve 100% participation from $1 to $100 dollars.

2023 ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE

Try your luck with our Special Anniversary Raffle this year. It is a simple scratch off card. All you do is scratch off 6 of the same picture of cash and you win instantly $50,000.00. Each ticket is $20, but we have decided to give you two chances for the price of one. Stop by the table at the coffee hour and try your luck for $50 thousand dollars. You will also be helping out the church in this fundraising effort.

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Supplication Service to the Holy Mother of God
(For the Living)
ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΙΣ
Ετι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ ἔλεους, λωβῆς, εἰρήνης, ὑγείας, σωτηρίας,
ἐπισκέψεως, συνχωρήσεως καὶ ἀφέσεως των ἁμαρτιῶν των
dούλων του Θεοῦ... We pray for mercy, life, health, peace,
salvation, visitation, forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God.

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Group Z, Inc.
Business Services Provider
(Full-Charge Bookkeeping & Administrative Support)
Government IT Contractor
(Federal & State IT Consulting / Health IT)

Ανθούλα Ζαΐρη
Νώρα Πρέστι
Anthie Zairis
Nora Presti

7061 Columbia Gateway Dr #120 • Columbia, MD 21046
410.772.0888 • nanthie@group-z.net
www.group-z.net

Group Z is an EDWOSB
## August/Αύγουστος 2023

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**1** Dormition Fast Begins/ΑΡΧΗ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑΣ ΔΕΚΑΠΕΝΤΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΟΥ

**2** Paraklesis / ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΗ 6PM

**3**

**4**

**5**

**6** Transfiguration of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (Fish and Wine allowed)/ΜΕΤΑΜΟΡΦΩΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ (ΚΑΤΑΛΥΣΗ ΟΙΝΟΥ & ΙΧΘΥΟΣ)

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am

**7** Paraklesis / ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΗ 6PM

**8** Parish Council Mtg. 7pm

**9** Paraklesis / ΠΑΡΑΚΛΗΣΗ 6PM

**10**

**11**

**12**

**13** 10th Sunday of Mathew/10η Κυριακή Ματθαίου

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am

**14** Great Vespers / ΜΕΓΑΣ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ 6PM

**15** Dormition of the Theotokos/Η ΚΟΙΜΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΤΟΚΟΥ

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am

**16**

**17**

**18**

**19** Church Yard Sale

9-3PM

**20** 11th Sunday of Mathew/11η Κυριακή Ματθαίου

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

**25**

**26**

**27** 12th Sunday of Mathew/12η Κυριακή Ματθαίου (St. Phanourios)

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am

St. Phanourios Day Bring Phanouropites

**28**

**29** Beheading of John the Baptist Strict Fasting/ΑΠΟΤΟΜΗ ΤΙΜΙΑΣ ΚΕΦΑΛΗΣ ΠΡΟΦΗΤΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ (ΑΥΣΤΗΡΗ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ)

Matins & Divine Liturgy/ΟΡΘΟΡΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am

Strict fast day

**30**

**31**
Dear Parishioners,

The Stewardship Year begins on January 1st and concludes on December 31st. We ask that you do not delay and join the “St. Theodore’s Stewardship Program for 2023” so that we can grow and become a stronger Church and minister to you, the people of God. The Church needs the support of its members year round. Please consider giving a pledge as a way of showing your support and love to the Church. It cost thousands of dollars a month to operate the Church with the monthly utility and maintenance bills and salaries. Please consider giving as much as your heart tells you to give. You do not need to make your payment all at once. You can give quarterly, monthly or weekly, which makes it very easy and affordable. Paying on Square@sttheodores.org has also been set up for those who would like to use it. Thank you!

As of August 1, 2023 we have a total of 115 stewards who have signed up for their 2023 Stewardship of the Church. Please join the membership list of supporters.

**STEWARDSHIP HONOR ROLL Pledges**

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<tr>
<th>Theodore &amp; Maria Adamos</th>
<th>Bill &amp; Tina Katcheves</th>
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<td>Charles &amp; Victoria Alevrofas</td>
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STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM 2023

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

NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE

HOME PHONE

In gratitude for God's many blessings, I/we commit to the stewardship of St. Theodore's and pledge the following amount for 2023.

$__________ per month x 12 months = $__________ for the year.

Suggested amounts for giving:

☐ $10 per week ($520/yr)  ☐ $40/mon ($480)
☐ $15 per week ($780/yr)  ☐ $50/mon ($600)
☐ $20 per week ($1040/yr)  ☐ $75/mon ($900)
☐ $25 per week ($1300/yr)  ☐ $100/mon ($1,200)
☐ $30 per week ($1680/yr)  ☐ $150/mon ($1,800)
☐ Other per week $__________  ☐ Other per month $__________

☐ $ 400/yr
☐ $ 500/yr
☐ $ 1,000/yr
☐ $ 1,500/yr
☐ $ 2,000/yr
☐ Other $__________

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 birthdays:

__________________________  ______________________

__________________________  ______________________

__________________________  ______________________

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
☐ Greek School/PTO
☐ Chanting
☐ Philoptochos
☐ Festival
☐ Fundraising
☐ Dance Group

☐ GOYA/YOUTH
☐ Young Adult
☐ Bible Study
☐ Baking Proskhora
☐ Grounds and Maintenance
☐ Altar Boy
☐ Flowers/Decorations
☐ Other__________________
Community Yard Sale
Saturday, August 19, 2023
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Inside our Social Hall and outside as well!
Come and shop for some unique and well priced items
Bring items any time weekdays
Monday through Friday
from 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Food and Beverage will be available for purchase as well.
Souvlakia, Gyros, French Fries etc.
And other Greek Food items

All proceeds to benefit the Church and its various ministries of service.

Reservations can be taken and payments can be made as of September 1, 2023
Deadline for purchasing tickets for the Grand Banquet is November 20, 2023
There will be a discount for those parishioners who reserve an entire table of 10 in contrast to buying individual tickets.

Ticket prices will be announced on September 1, 2023 and you can purchase your tickets online or by check through the mail or stopping by the church office Monday-Fridays 10a-2p.
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