



Our Monthly News

St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church
Lanham, Maryland
Volume 15, Issue 2 February 2023
Celebrating 50 years



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis Of New Jersey
His Eminence
Archbishop Elpidophoros

Parish Priest
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St. Theodore the General
Greek Orthodox Church
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Lanham, MD 20706
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Church Office:

Monday through Friday
10:00 am—2:00 pm
Church Secretary
Newsletter Editor
Juliana Moniodis
Phone: 301.552.3540

Find us on Facebook!

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/sttheodore/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sttheodore/)

Our Church Anniversary Begins: Where We Have Been & Where We Are Going

The celebration of our Church's 50th anniversary reminds us to look simultaneously forward and backward. Our look back at the past 50 years of our Church's life gives us courage and hope for the next 50 years. As a church we are formed and identified by our history, by where we have been in our past. And second, the meaning of that history is determined by the future, by where our history is leading us. St. Theodore Church is celebrating 50 years, but our Orthodox Christian Faith is over 2000 years old. Every year at Easter, we remember the Death and Resurrection of Christ and when it arrives, we experience it as if it was happening for the first time. It inspires us and brings to our attention that we are truly the people of God with a destiny.

This year is special. It is a jubilee. We will pause to remember the history of our beloved church, the generations of your own families who have been born, baptized, married and buried here; the traditions that you have created, and that have in turn made you the people you are. Today we are proud to say that we are part of that whole history. We are all identified by our histories. We owe who we are to our past, our heritage, our upbringing and education and our traditions. You and I, and this congregation, are products of where we have been. We can learn a lot from the past, but its most important function is to lead us into the future.

Jesus made that very clear. He told His disciples to remember what He had done, but He also turned their attention to the future task that His ministry was preparing them for. "Go and be my witnesses," He told them. "Go and work in the vineyard. Go and make disciples." Jesus never let His disciples dwell on what had already been done. Their purpose was not to be found in where they had been, but in where they were going. Our faith is born and nurtured in a historical experience, in what God has done for us in the past, but it always leads us into the future. As a church today, your anniversary celebration naturally turns your gaze back on your history. But you must let that history be part of your movement into the future. Jesus has commissioned you and sent you into the world with a mission: how will you fulfill it?

We all have a responsibility to our young people, to prepare them for what they will face in life. We have a responsibility to our elderly members, to help meet their needs in a changing world. We have a responsibility to the community around us, to proclaim the good news of salvation and to be examples of Christ's love. May the witnessing of faith, commitment, and service that we will remember this year strengthen you, prepare you, and propel you into the next decade of our beloved church. And the question "Where are we going?" has a still greater significance, because as Orthodox Christians we know that our history has an eternal direction, an ultimate goal. In the incarnation, death and resurrection of Christ the world has been set toward its final destination, which is eternal life and salvation. Orthodox Christianity is our true hope, looking forward and moving forward. The promise of the future is ultimately in God's hands. The Church is the first fruits of the Kingdom of God, the first dawning of God's presence in the world in our day. Its purpose is both to remember God's faithfulness, kindness, mercy, and providence through our history up to now, and to move us and our world toward the goal God has given us.

We stand at the threshold of our 50th Anniversary and for the next 12 months, I ask you to join me in this special celebration. Don't miss a Sunday. Join us for the Great Vespers of St. Theodore on Tuesday, February 7th at 6 p.m. Please arrive by 5:30 to welcome His Grace Bishop Apostolos into the Church. Join us in our first celebration of many on Saturday, February 11th for the Name Day Dinner/Dance beginning at 7 p.m. You can reserve your spot by going to our website, www.sttheodores.org. On March 5th, we will have a special presentation given to us by Fr. Stefanos Alexopoulos entitled, "Translating Liturgy into Life: A Reflection on How to Live Liturgically."

Let us thank God for allowing us to be a part of this historical time in the life of our Church, remembering who we are and where we have been. And at the same time, we look to the future, remembering what we have been put here to do and where we are going. Our history is always leading us somewhere; our glory as God's children is always yet to come. Amen.

CHURCH MINISTRIES MONTHLY NEWS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

On December 11, 2022, there was a 9-Year Memorial for Akaterini Magoulas and 36-Year Memorial for Theologos Magoulas, the dearly parents of Paula Magoulas and grandparents of Anastasia Sarakakis Skarvelis and Catherine (Jesse) Sumner. A 13-Year Memorial will also be prayed for Joanne (Ioanna) Magoulas, beloved mother of Catherine (Jesse) Sumner, loving sister of Paula Magoulas and adored aunt of Anastasia Sarakakis Skarvelis. May their memory be eternal.

On December 11, 2022, there was be a 19-Year Memorial Service for the soul of Dimitrios Tsiambouris, the dearly departed husband of Vasiliki Tsiambouris, loving father of Katerina Exis and the grandfather of Christos and Panagiotis Exis. May his memory be eternal.

TRISAGION SERVICES

On January 8, 2023, there was a Three-Month Trisagion service for the soul of Nikolaos (Nick) V. Polizos (81) of Silver Spring, MD who fell asleep unto the Lord on October 8th, 2022. He is the beloved husband of Maria Polizos of 53 years; loving father of Bill N. (Eleni), Elizabeth Townsend (Michael) and John N. (Kaliopi); adored and beloved loved Pappou of 7 grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother John Polizos, and sisters Georgia Papaspirou, Ellie Mallos and Xanthi Noutsos. May his memory be eternal.

On January 15, 2023, there was a 5-Year Trisagion service for Panagiotis Boutselis, beloved father of Peter Boutselis and Penny Padousis. Grandfather of Alex, Katerina, and Zoe. May his memory be eternal.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes will be held downstairs in the social hall after Holy Communion. Both Maria Adamos & Georgia Plangetis are teaching the classes. If any new students would like to enroll you can contact Maria Adamos at mnbanis@gmail.com. All young people of the community are encouraged to come and be a part of the Sunday School program.

GREEK SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN OR ADULTS

If you are interested in being a part of restarting the Greek School program, or if an adult would like to learn Greek in the Adult class, please notify Father Manuel, or the Church office M-F 10a-2p at 301-552-3540. We would like to have as many children to become interested in learning the language of their parents and grandparents. Adults also are encouraged to come and learn the Greek language also.

CREDIT CARD STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS

If you would like to pay your stewardship monthly by credit card, please email to the following email address: square@sttheodores.org with your pledge and frequency.

**Official Twitter account of St. Theodore
Greek Orthodox Church of Maryland:
[St. Theodore GOC\(@sttheodorem\)](https://twitter.com/sttheodorem)**

THE THREE SATURDAYS OF THE SOULS - PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

The three Saturday of Souls are February 18, 25 and March 4, 2023. We pray for the repose of the souls of our departed brothers and sisters in the Lord and for the forgiveness of their every transgression. You are welcome to submit names. The form will be available in the narthex. 9 a.m. Orthros & 10 a.m. Liturgy followed by the Memorial Service.

HELPING ONE ANOTHER

There are several parishioners who have said that they do not have a way to get to church. We would like to start a program whereby we can assist those parishioners to come to church. If you are in need of a ride to church, please inform Fr. Manuel or call the church office during normal business hours Monday – Friday 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. Also, for those who would like to assist in giving rides to those in need, please let Fr. Manuel know or the church office.

BIBLE STUDY ONLINE

The St. Theodore Bible Study is offered online every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. sometimes until 8:30 p.m. depending on the text and topic. Please join us every Wednesday until Great Lent begins. Once Great Lent begins on February 27th, we will move to Thursday nights because Wednesdays are the PreSanctified Liturgies at 6 p.m. The Bible Study will continue through the month of March and April and will stop for Holy Week and Easter. After Easter, we will resume again until the end of June. The link to join the Bible Study is meet.google.com/adh-cguj-cng. You will need to have a gmail email account in order to join Google Meet. Gmail accounts are free. If you are interested in being a part of the bible study or have any further questions, please send a message to Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com or just come to the site. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to read the Scriptures with us and especially the commentary and interpretation of the Scriptures by highly qualified theologians and scholars. Looking forward to you joining us. Make this commitment as a resolution to study the Word of God with your Church Family this year. Please know that the Bible Study is open to anyone and everyone of the Orthodox Faith and you do not need to be a member of St. Theodore's Church to attend. Also, those who are interested in becoming Orthodox or of another denomination but would like to learn more about the Scriptures can also attend.

SPECIAL DONATIONS FOR THE 50H ANNIVERSARY

A list is being compiled of important items needed for the 50th Anniversary. If you would like to make a special donation in memory of a loved one or for the health of your family, please see Fr. Manuel at your convenience or call at 410-241-9690.



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 _____

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 for 2023.

\$ _____ 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 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 Prospora
<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 _____

February / Φεβρουαριος 2023

Sunday Κυριακή	Monday Δευτέρα	Tuesday Τρίτη	Wednesday Τετάρτη	Thursday Πέμπτη	Friday Παρασκευή	Saturday Σάββατον
			1	2 Presentation of Our Lord/Η ΥΠΑΠΑΝΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00am	3	4
5 Publican and Pharisee/ΤΕΛΩΝΟΥ & ΦΑΡΙΣΑΙΟΥ Triodion Begins/ΑΡΧΗ ΤΡΙΩΔΙΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15am Sunday school/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο after communion	6 FAST FREE WEEK	7 Great Vespers/ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΕΣΠΕΡΙΝΟΣ 6:00pm Followed by Reception	8 Theodore The General/ Θεοδωρος Στρατηλάτης Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00 /10:00 am Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	9	10	11 <i>Feastday Dinner Dance 7pm</i>
12 Prodigal Son/ΤΟΥ ΑΣΩΤΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15am Sunday school/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο after communion	13	14	15 Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	16	17	18 1st Saturday of Souls/A' ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00 /10:00 am
19 Judgement Sunday/ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΡΙΣΕΩΣ Meat Fare Sunday/ΤΩΝ ΑΠΟΚΡΕΩΝ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15am Sunday school/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο after communion	20 President's Day Office closed	21	22 Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	23	24	25 2nd Saturday of Souls/B' ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00 /10:00 am
26 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)/ ΤΗΣ ΤΥΡΟΦΑΓΟΥ ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΣΥΓΧΩΡΗΣΗΣ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am Sunday school/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο after communion	27 Great Lent Begins Great Compline/ Μεγα Αποδευπνον —6:00pm	28				

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!

STEWARDSHIP HONOR ROLL Pledges for 2023 ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑ 2023

William & Angie Alexion
Sirmatenia Bakalides
Nektarios & Eleni Banis
George & Katherine Billos
Fr. Manuel J. & Molly Burdusi
Lee & Mary Caprinolo
Nicholas & Karen Cox
Jessie Defalco
Bess Demas
John & Fofa Dimopoulos
Demetri Dimopoulos
Katerina, Peter & Chris Exis
Angeliki Fanourgakis
Spyridon & Stavroula Galiatsatos
Antonios Gemetzopoulos
Anastasia Georhristodoulos
Angie Geralis
Paul Gionis
Randy E. & Anna Grow
Matthew & Payal Halkos
Timothy & Cheryl Halkos
Dennis & Mary Pittas Herschbach
Agisilaos Iliadis
Athanasios & Foteini Iliopoulos
Angela Jones
Kassiani Kakitsis
Olga Karahalidis
Diane Karras
Panagiota Karras
Kyriakos & Argiro Kiotsekoglou
Keith & Nicolette Kirby
Athanasios & Marilu Kolazas
George Kollaros
Anastasios Kouridis
Gregory & Vasiliki Kozakos
Vasiliki Kretsiss
Paula Magoulas
Joshua & Christina
Malliakos Knepper
Ourania Manessis
Vasilike Mantzouranis
John S. Maroulis

Panagiotis Marousis
Aphrodite T. Matsakis, PhD.
Reed & Gina Melis
Nicholas & Elaine Michaelides
Paul & Juliana Moniodis
John & Catherine M. Nazarene
Afroditi E. Papadopoulos
Vasilios & Tracy Papadopoulos
Nikolaos & Maria Paschalidis
Georgios & Constantina Pelekanos
Ioannis Perelas
Philip & Georgia Plangetis
William & Cynthia Popomaronis
William & Nora Presti
Georgia Romas
Ioanna Elisabet Christoforou

Michael & Anna Sergotick
Iliana Siarmalis
Zachary & Victoria Villano Singer
Gregory & Anastasia Skarvelis
James Speropoulos
Daniel & Shea Svihra
Andrew E. Tompros
Margie & Amelia Tompros
Chris & Joyce Trikeriotis
Deborah Vandamm
Robert & Christina Villano
William David Wrigley PhD
Peter Yakas & Eleni Harlepas
Dr Patricia Zissios



As of **January 31, 2023**
we have a total of
71 stewards
who have signed up
for their 2023
Stewardship of the
Church. Please join
the membership
list of supporters.



Group Z, Inc.

Business Services Provider

(Full-Charge Bookkeeping & Administrative Support)

Government IT Contractor

(Federal & State IT Consulting / Health IT)

**Ανθούλα Ζαΐρη
Νόρα Πρέστη**

**Anthie Zairis
Nora Presti**

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

Group Z is an EDWOSB



Presbytera Malama celebrated her 60th Birthday in December



Some of our young men of the Parish. Athan Malagisi, Andrew Dallas And Kosta Plangetis .

Young people helped with decorating the Christmas tree. Lazarou & Theodorou Families.



Speaking this year on Stewardship Sunday, December 11th were left to right Athanasia Svihra, Antonios Gemetzopoulos and Christina Cirillo.



Visiting for Holy Communion at Christmas It was a treat to see Charlie and Vicky Alevrofas and Vicky's sister Elena Kouremetis.



OUR YOUNG PEOPLE CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH SANTA AT THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DECEMBER 18TH



Two of our newest attendees to Divine Liturgy are Panagiotis and Katerina Iliopoulos.

ANNUAL NAME DAY DINNER DANCE

Saturday, February 11, 2023

7 p.m. Cocktails & Appetizers

8 p.m. Dinner, Music by "Golden Flame" & Dancing



LANHAM, MARYLAND
STTHEODORES.ORG

Join us in beginning our Church's 50th Anniversary

Tickets: \$50 adults; \$25 young adults & children

All tickets sold online at sttheodores.org website

For more information call the church office at 301-552-3540

Dinner Dance will take place in our Church's Social Hall

7101 Cipriano Road Lanham, Maryland 20706

Cash Bar and \$ 50,000.00 Raffle

ANNUAL NAME DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 - 6 p.m. Great Vespers

Please be here by 5:30 p.m. to greet the Bishop

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 - 9 a.m. Orthros;

10 a.m. Divine Liturgy



LANHAM, MARYLAND
STTHEODORES.ORG

Join us in celebrating our Church's Name Day!

Presiding at the Great Vespers Service will be

His Grace, Bishop Apostolos of Medeia.

Following the Great Vespers, there will be a reception held in the Church's Social Hall.

Please join us with your presence and prayers.

7101 Cipriano Road Lanham, Maryland 20706

SPECIAL LENTEN PRESENTATION

Sunday of Orthodoxy—March 5, 2023

8:45 a.m. Orthros

10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Procession of the Holy Icons & Special Lenten Presentation

by Fr. Stefanos Alexopoulos, PhD



“Translating” Liturgy into Life: A Reflection on How to Live Liturgically

By Fr. Stefanos Alexopoulos, PhD

Associate Professor of Liturgical Studies & Sacramental Theology (tenured)
School of Theology and Religious Studies

The Catholic University of America Washington, DC 20064

Fellow in Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, Harvard University 2020-21

Following the Presentation, there will be an opportunity for
Questions & Answers in the Church’s Social Hall during Coffee Hour.

Please join us with your presence!

It will prove to be educational and spiritual uplifting as well.

St Theodore Greek Orthodox Church 7101 Cipriano Rd Lanham, Maryland 20706



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as the Individual*



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and Operated
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