

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## ST. THEODORE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH LANHAM, MARYLAND



Volume 12, Issue 5

May 2020

**Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis Of New Jersey  
His Eminence  
Metropolitan Evangelos**

**Parish Proistamenos**  
Fr. Manuel J. Burdusi  
father@sttheodores.org  
Cell 410-241-9690

St. Theodore the General  
Greek Orthodox Church  
7101 Cipriano Road  
Lanham, MD 20706  
[www.sttheodores.org](http://www.sttheodores.org)

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Nora Presti, PTO President

### **Church Office:**

Monday through Friday

10:00 am—2:00 pm

Church Secretary

Newsletter Editor

Juliana Moniodis

Phone: 301.552.3540

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## PASTORAL LETTER TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. THEODORE

Dear Parishioners,

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen!

I pray that everyone's Easter was a blessed one under the circumstances of the pandemic and with having to socially distance ourselves over the past 6 weeks. I extend my congratulations to the entire community for surviving a socially-distanced Holy Week and Easter. I hope that you were able to tune in to the services that were offered through Facebook and through the parish website [sttheodores.org](http://sttheodores.org) through Nest. I know that many people expressed how disappointed they were that they could not come and attend the services of Holy Week and Easter. I too was disappointed that you could not be with me during the services. The services were not the same without you. What kept me going was knowing that you were on the other side of the camera watching and praying and participating in the services as best as possible. And that is what our approach to our spirituality is to be. We need to be grateful for what we do have, and not concentrate on what we are not able to have during this trying time. We still have our families, we still have our health, we still have our faith, we still have our prayer life, and we know that God loves us and that He is there for us and He takes care of us.

I am blessed to say that as of this writing, I do not know of anyone in the parish who has been affected by the Coronavirus by contracting the disease. And I pray that no one ever contracts this very brutal and relentless disease. Continue to stay at home and practice good sense. Only go out when it is absolutely necessary and continue to practice good hygiene and wear a mask when leaving your home. Do not start to socialize with others just because you have become tired of this time period. I assure you that the end of our current situation is coming. I am hoping and praying that we will be back in church together at the earliest by the middle of May and at the latest by the middle of June.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Juliana and Paul Moniodis for chanting all the services of Holy Week and Easter. I also thank Jacob Tosado and Jimmy Tancabel for their assistance in the altar and with lighting candles for all of you. Without the four of them, I would not have been able to complete Holy Week and Easter with any success. We became like a second family for Holy Week and I am indebted to them for their service. I also would like to thank Nick Michaelides and Craig Tuthill for cleaning up after Easter services and putting the church back into proper order.

We are saddened to announce about the passing away of Mr. Basil Antoniadis, who passed away a week before Holy Week. Mr. Antoniadis was the husband of Eleni Antoniadis and the father of Spiros, Ioannis and Vasilia and the brother in law of Mr. John Maroulis. May God give rest to his soul and may He grant comfort and strength to the family.

Prior to Holy Week, over 125 calls were made to the seniors and members of the parish to see how you were doing and if anyone needed anything. Now that Easter is over, it is of great importance to me to again reach out to everyone via this Message, especially to the elderly or anyone who is isolated and if anyone needs any help, please contact me immediately. The Church is here for you, but I cannot know everyone's situation unless I am informed. Please call me at 410-241-9690 anytime for anything that you may need. Even if it's just to talk or express a concern, a worry, or if you need a prayer. We can pray over the phone. There are also several volunteers who have offered to go grocery shopping or pick up prescriptions for you and deliver them to you. Or if anyone is in need of food or financial assistance, let me know so that we can help you or someone that you know. Several people have come forward to offer this assistance.

In closing, I again wish everyone a very blessed post-Resurrection season and may God continue to protect us and guide us back to church and to lead us to our ultimate salvation.

With love in Christ,

Father Manuel

**This is the Day that the Lord has made!**

By St. Gregory of Nyssa

The reign of life has begun, the tyranny of death is ended. A new birth has taken place, a new life has come, a new order of existence has appeared, our very nature has been transformed! This birth is not brought about by human generation, by the will of man, or by the desire of the flesh, but by God.

If you wonder how, I will explain in clear language. Faith is the womb that conceives this new life, baptism the rebirth by which it is brought forth into the light of day. The Church is its nurse; her teachings are its milk, the bread from heaven is its food. It is brought to maturity by the practice of virtue; it is wedded to wisdom; it gives birth to hope. Its home is the kingdom; its rich inheritance the joys of paradise; its end, not death, but the blessed and everlasting life prepared for those who are worthy.

This is the day the Lord has made – a day far different from those made when the world was first created and which are measured by the passage of time. This is the beginning of a new creation. On this day, as the prophet says, God makes a new heaven and a new earth. What is this new heaven? you may ask. It is the firmament of our faith in Christ. What is the new earth? A good heart, a heart like the earth, which drinks up the rain that falls on it and yields a rich harvest.

In this new creation, purity of life is the sun, the virtues are the stars, transparent goodness is the air, and the depths of the riches of wisdom and knowledge, the sea. Sound doctrine, the divine teachings are the grass and plants that feed God’s flock, the people whom he shepherds; the keeping of the commandments is the fruit borne by the trees.

On this day is created the true man, the man made in the image and likeness of God. For this day the Lord has made is the beginning of this new world. Of this day the prophet says that it is not like other days, nor is this night like other nights. But still we have not spoken of the greatest gift it has brought us. This day destroyed the pangs of death and brought to birth the firstborn of the dead.

I ascend to my Father and to your Father, to my God and to your God. O what wonderful good news! He who for our sake became like us in order to make us his brothers, now presents to his true Father his own humanity in order to draw all his kindred up after him.

We are beyond happy to introduce our beautiful daughter:

Athina “Ina” Vaia Adamos  
 Birthdate: April 12, 2020 (Palm Sunday!) at 9:19pm  
 6lbs 1.7 oz, 19 inches

All of us are doing well and happy and excited to commence the days and nights of sleeplessness!

We are so grateful and blessed.

Love,  
 Theodore & Maria Adamos




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**Pandemic Continues/ Services Online**

As of this writing, we are not aware when the churches can be re-opened for you to come and attend and participate in the Divine Liturgy. As soon as we hear from the Governor and the Metropolis of New Jersey, we will let you know. In the meantime, we remind you that you are able to tune in to the services that are offered through Facebook and through the parish website [sttheodores.org](http://sttheodores.org) through Google Nest. Services will be aired each Sunday beginning at 9 a.m. with the Orthros and 10 a.m. with the Divine Liturgy. We will also celebrate the following holidays as well in May: the Feast of Sts. Constantine and Helen on May 21<sup>st</sup> and Ascension on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Resurrection Season**

For the next 40 days, we will be saying Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! either prior or right after saying "Hello." In addition, we are reminded that during this Paschal Season that we do not kneel during prayer, but stand especially during the consecration of the holy gifts during the Divine Liturgy.

**Flowers to Virgin Mary for Mother's Day**

You will be able to make an offering for flowers to be placed before the Virgin Mary for Mother's Day. Donations will be \$10 and you can make them in memory of a loved one or for the health of your family. Roses will be placed before the icon of the Panagia on Sunday, May 10 for Mother's Day. A reminder that you can also light a 7 day candle each and every Sunday by going the church's website – [www.sttheodores.org](http://www.sttheodores.org) and go to the church store to purchase either your candle, your flowers, or to make a memorial donation or a stewardship pledge.

**Thank you's**

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**Canned Food Drive**

Many people are in need of food items and we as a community need to help. We will be collecting canned foods and other non-perishable items for the local food banks for the months of May and June. You can bring your items and leave them at the front door of the church on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 noon to 2 p.m. We will take them inside and take them to the food banks. Thank you for your help.

**Final Advice**

I am blessed to say that as of this writing, I do not know of anyone in the parish who has been affected by the Coronavirus by contracting the disease. And I pray that no one ever contracts this very brutal and relentless disease. Continue to stay at home and practice good sense. Only go out when it is absolutely necessary and continue to practice good hygiene and wear a mask when leaving your home. Do not start to socialize with others just because you have become tired of this time period. I assure you that the end of our current situation is coming. I am hoping and praying that we will be back in church together at the earliest by the middle of May and at the latest by the middle of June.

Dear Parishioners,

Printed in the Newsletter each month is the form to become a member of the Church. Please fill it out and send it back to us as soon as you can. It is so important for the vitality and growth of the church for all its members to be supportive each and every year. There is no better time than now to remember your church and become a supporting member. As of today, 108 families have pledged and we thank you. There are still many more families who have been members of St. Theodore's in the past and we need you to especially respond. Please do so by filling out the form and mailing it back. You do not need to pay all at once, but can make a monthly contribution which makes it much easier and affordable. God bless you .

In Christ our Lord,  
**Father Manuel**

### STEWARDSHIP HONOR ROLL - PLEDGES FOR 2020 ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑ

Theodore & Maria Adamos  
Despina Adkins  
William & Angie Alexion  
Syrmatenia Bakalides  
George Banis  
Nektarios & Eleni Banis  
Peter P. Boutselis  
Gary Bucious  
John Burdusi  
Michael J. Burdusi  
Fr. Manuel J. & Molly Burdusi  
Bruce & Katerina Burleson  
Lee & Mary Caprinolo  
Nicholas & Dina Chahalid  
Michael & Anna Chandler  
George & Mary Charuhas  
Ariadne Coules  
Patrick & Mary Curtis  
Spero & Theano Demetrides  
Maria Despotides & Irene Cusimano  
John & Fofò Dimopoulos  
Demetri Dimopoulos  
Katerina, Peter & Chris Exis  
Angeliki Fanourgakis  
Ben & Lauren Rajewski Ferry  
Angeliki Frangos  
Dimitrios & Myrofora Frantzis  
Angie Geralis  
Paul Gionis  
Randy E. & Anna Grow  
Matthew Halkos & Payal Amin  
Timothy & Cheryl Halkos  
Dennis & Mary Pittas Herschbach  
Stella Higgs  
Peter & Theoni Hiotis  
Angela Jones  
Kassiani Kakitsis  
Panagos & Maria Kapsalis  
Olga Karahalid  
Diane Karras  
Bill & Tina Katcheves  
Angela Katsakis  
Keith & Nicolette Kirby  
Thalia Kirimlis

Stephen G. Koklas  
George Kollaros  
Anastasios Kouridis  
Mariana Kourkoulakos  
Maria Koustenis  
Chrisovalantou & Johanna Koutelis  
Louis C. Kouvaris  
Nikolaos & Vasiliki Kretsiss  
John & Zoe Lazarou  
Paula Magoulas  
Christina Malliakos  
Ourania Manessis  
John S. Maroulis  
Panagiotis Marousis  
Aphrodite T. Matsakis, PhD.  
Reed & Gina Melis  
Nicholas & Elaine Michaelides  
Gerasimos Andreas Michalitsianos  
Robert & Marilia Michell-Samaras  
Paul & Juliana Moniodis  
Vasilios & Evangelia Nasios  
John & Catherine M. Nazarene  
Ryan & Ariadne Nicole O'Rourke  
Afroditi E. Papadopoulos  
Vasilios & Tracy Papadopoulos  
George Papaspyrou  
Nikolaos & Maria Paschalidis  
Georgios & Constantina Pelekanos  
Ioannis Perelas  
George & Janet Philipopoulos  
Phillip & Georgia Plangetis  
Anthony Presti  
William & Nora Presti  
George Rallis  
Gregory Rallis  
Stamatis Rodousakis  
Georgia Romas  
Evangeline Ross  
Elpis Sakaria  
Ioanna Elisabet Christoforou  
Michael & Anna Sergotick  
Iliana Siarmalis  
Zachary & Victoria Villano Singer  
Gregory & Anastasia Skarvelis

Charles & Tara Smith  
Amalia Spanos  
Nicholas & Sevasti Spanos  
Katherine Spathis  
James Speropulos  
Gregory L. Stamulis  
James Tancabel  
Andrew E. Tompros  
Margie Tompros  
Chris & Joyce Trikeriotis  
Helen D. Tsintolas  
Georje & Majida & Maria Tsioumas  
Stella C. Tsourounis  
Gregory & Andriana Tuthill  
Deborah Vandamm  
Robert & Christina Villano  
William David Wrigley, PhD  
Peter E. Yakas & Eleni Harlepas  
Pantelis & Anthie Zairis  
Tom & Nikki Zizos

As of **April 30, 2020** we have a total of **108** stewards who have signed up for their 2020 Stewardship of the church.


**2020 Goal is \$100,000.00**

**Totals Pledged to date:  
\$58,607.00**

**Total Paid: \$37,697.00**

**Balance: \$20,910.00**

#### CREDIT CARD STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS

 If you would like to pay your stewardship monthly by credit card, please email [square@sttheodores.org](mailto:square@sttheodores.org) with your total pledge and frequency?



# May/Μάιος 2020

Sunday Κυριακή	Monday Δευτέρα	Tuesday Τρίτη	Wednesday Τετάρτη	Thursday Πέμπτη	Friday Παρασκευή	Saturday Σάββατον
					1	2
<b>3</b> Sunday of the Myrrh Bearers/ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ ΤΩΝ ΜΥΡΟΦΟΡΩΝ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	4 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	5	6 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	7	8 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	9
<b>10</b> Sunday of the Paralytic/ΤΟΥ ΠΑΡΑΛΥΤΟΥ HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	11 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	12	13 <i>Mid-Pentecost</i> Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	14	15 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	16
<b>17</b> Sunday of the Samaritan Woman/ΤΗΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΙΤΙΔΟΣ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	18 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	19	20 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	21 <i>St. Constantine &amp; Helen</i> /ΑΓΙΩΝ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ & ΕΛΕΝΗΣ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	22 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	23
<b>24</b> Sunday of the Blind Man/ Κυριακή του Τυφλού Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office closed</i>	26	27 <i>Apodosis of Pascha</i> Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	28 <i>Holy Ascension</i> /ΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΛΗΨΕΩΣ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	29 Drop off canned goods 12:00 Noon—2PM	30
<b>31</b> Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council/ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ ΤΗΣ 1ης ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΗΣ ΣΥΝΟΔΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00			<p>Official Twitter account of St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church of Maryland : St. Theodore GOC (@sttheodoremd )</p>			



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