



Our Monthly News

St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church
Lanham, Maryland
Volume 15, Issue 11 November 2023
Celebrating 50 years



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis Of New Jersey
His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos

Parish Priest

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
office@sttheodores.org

PARISH COUNCIL

Pres—Nick Michaelides
V. Pres—Timothy Halkos
Treasurer—Pantelis Zairis
Secretary—Nora Presti
Theodore Adamos

Antonios Gemetzopoulos
John Lazarou
John Maroulis
Paul Moniodis
George Papaspyrou
Maria Tsioumas

PHILOTOCHOS

President—Anthie Zairis
1st Vice Pres—Maria Kapsalis
2nd Vice Pres—Zoe Lazarou
Secretary—Presv. Malama Burdusi
Treasurer—Nora Presti
Advisor Angeliki Frangos-Papaspyrou
Board Members:
Sec- Tracy Papadopoulos
Kassiani Kakitsis
Paula Magoulas
Elaine Michaelides
Tracy Papadopoulos
Alexandra Tsigliffis

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Maria Banis Adamos
Georgia Plangetis

GREEK SCHOOL/PTO

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

Find us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sttheodore/>

Welcome to November – A Time for Thanksgiving

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night...(Psalm 92)

In many of the services of the Church, this verse from the 92nd Psalm is said just before the end. Just before we leave our place of worship to go out our separate ways again with our separate problems, we are reminded that “it is good to give thanks to the Lord.” Whatever uplift we may have gotten in Church will quickly evaporate if we fail to engage in some kind of private thanksgiving: “...to declare God’s steadfast love in the morning, and His faithfulness by night.” This month, our nation will observe a Day of Thanksgiving. For some of us, it is a day that is observed rather than felt, a looking on rather than an involvement in. I hope we are not willing to let Thanksgiving go so hastily this year, to let whatever feelings the day itself will generate to evaporate in a swirl of pre-Christmas frenzy. There is too much in the thought to be given only a passing thought. And if our hearts have been touched at all by the bounty of God, then Thanksgiving is not over. It never is. It is our task as people of God to turn inward and look deeper for the reasons our hearts overflow, or perchance to know the cause of the drought in the wellsprings of our heart. On the list of Christian prayer, thanksgiving ought to be given first place. Others feel that adoration is the highest form of prayer. But the question can well be asked whether a man can be moved to adore God before he has learned to thank Him.

The first offspring of thanking is thinking. The two do come from a common root, you know. A thank is a thought. A good thought is a good thank. We pause long enough to analyze the feelings of gratitude we experience, and we find that they proceed ultimately to the source of grace. We give grace for the sense of His nearness and watchfulness. It’s amazing how the perspective of things changes when we think through and realize that God is at work in His world; things are not just happening; His will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven; and our world, shabby and shaky as it appears, can redeem itself through God’s grace. As thinking is a basic by-product of thanking, so is appreciation. Appreciation is the process of adding to the values of a thing. A kindness that goes unacknowledged seems only half as valuable as one for which thanks are sincerely returned. So a gift for which the giver is thanked is an appreciated gift, that is, its value has been enhanced in the thanking. We add magically to the intrinsic worth of everything we see and touch when we thank God for it. Not everyone knows how to appreciate, how to add to the value of a child, a friend, a sunrise, a sunset, a work of art, a service of worship. There is a skill to it and that skill is the special gift of a thankful heart. One final offspring of thanking. The relationship suggests itself in the word thanksgiving. When we learn to think and learn to appreciate we also learn to give. It is the inevitable corollary of true and deeply felt gratitude. We need to find some tangible way to pronounce our thanksgivings and that is what makes a thankful spirit one of the most dynamic forces in the world. This explains in part the immense power of the early Church. Paul placed much emphasis on giving. He was probably the greatest fun-raiser of all time. But he understood the deep spirit of giving and he taught the people to understand it. Paul knew very well that the practical net results would mean little without the intangible spiritual dividends.

And so ought we to say as we reflect on our miraculously abundant way of living, and the responsibility it places on us not to abuse it through ingratitude. This is the duty our Church reminds us of whenever we prepare to leave the House of God and go to our own well-built, well-stocked, well-protected houses. It is a duty not exacted by God, as some kind of tax on what we receive, but one that issues out of our own overflowing hearts, we have kept them aware and sensitive through proper and constant thanksgiving. Wishing everyone a very blessed Thanksgiving!

Join us in
Celebrating



50 years

**St Theodore Greek Orthodox Church
50TH ANNIVERSARY GRAND BANQUET**

Saturday, December 2, 2023

GRAND BALLROOM

Adele H. Stamp Student Union

3972 Campus Drive · College Park, Maryland

6pm Cocktails
7pm Dinner & Program
9pm Music & Dancing
Music by Golden Flame

Tickets:
Adult \$125
Student \$100
Senior (70+) \$100

*For tickets, visit www.sttheodores.org
or call the church office 301-552-3540*

Attire: Formal -or- Cocktail



**You can also use the email link below for purchasing tickets:
<https://st-theodore-greek-church.square.site/50th-anniversary>**

CHURCH MINISTRIES MONTHLY NEWS



PASSING OF APHRODITE PAPADOPOULOS

We are saddened to announce the passing of Mrs. Afrodite Papadopoulou who passed away on October 5. She is the beloved mother/mother-in-law of Bill & Tracy Papadopoulou, and grandmother of Milti and Afrodite. She passed away on her birthday and she was 99 years

old. May her memory be eternal. We are very grateful to Bill & Tracy Papadopoulou for the many years that they have been supportive members of St. Theodore Church and especially Tracy who served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. They have instilled in their children, Milti & Afrodite love and dedication to the church. We are most grateful to them. May God give rest to their beloved mother and grandmother and may God grant them strength and comfort for their loss.

MEMORIALS

On October 1, 2023, there was a Three-Year Memorial for Stella [Stavroula Charuhas] Higgs, and a Ten-Year Memorial for Martin Higgs, loving parents of Veronica Higgs and Regina (Bob) Zick; cherished grandmother of Robert (Morgan), Jason (Anna), and Michael (Alison) Zick, and great grandchildren Henry, Avery, Sophia, and Stella. May their memory be eternal.

On October 22, 2023, there was a Six-Month Memorial for William "Bill" Christ Alexion, loving husband of Angelina Alexion and father of Chris Alexion of Burke, VA, Thomas (Melanie) Alexion of North Potomac, Valerie (Michael) Damiano of Silver Spring, and Perry (Rachelle) Alexion of Fulton. Beloved grandfather of 5 grandchildren, and great-grandfather of 2 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. May his memory be eternal!

BIBLE STUDY ONLINE

The bible study is offered online on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The link to join the Bible Study is meet.google.com/adh-cguj-cng. You would 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, please send a message to Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2023 @ 7PM.

ORTHODOX OBSERVER

The Orthodox Observer newspaper is now only being published in a digital format, and no longer delivered to parishioners' homes. If you wish to receive the paper, log on to www.goarch.org/news to subscribe.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be held downstairs in the social hall after Holy Communion. Both Maria Adamos & Georgia Plangetis are teaching the class. If any new students would like to enroll you can contact Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com or 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. Please contact Maria Adamos if you are interested.

BLESSINGS BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

St. Theodore Youth, Families and Parishioners please join us on **Sunday, November 12**, after church, as the Youth of St. Theodore will be assembling blessing bags for the homeless. **We are collecting donations, to create the blessings bags, through November 12.** We are asking for donations via the Sign Up Genius link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0845ADA62AAFA7-45632494-blessings/142580559#/>

All donated items should be brought to St. Theodore Church NO LATER THAN Sunday, **November 12**. With your generosity we plan to create and distribute 30 bags.

If you have any questions, please email our Youth Advisors via sttheodores.youth@gmail.com Thank you!

YOUTH SUNDAY

There will be a spotlight on Youth Sunday, November 12, during the Divine Liturgy. A number of our youth will be actively participating in the worship service which will be held outside the Altar on the solea for everyone to see everything that is happening. Please join us on this day and remember to bring your supplies for the homeless on this day.

SHARING OLD PHOTOS FROM EVENTS AT ST. THEODORE

Have fond memories of a past occasion at St. Theodore? A picture is worth a thousand words! Share your favorite photos by sending them to StTheoAnniversary@gmail.com by November 15. Eligible photos will be included in the event slideshow and upcoming Anniversary Album!

USED CLOTHING SHED

Our used clothing shed is always open for donations. **Be sure to bring your items in plastic bags and that they are tied, not boxes or plastic container.** We are accepting all clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes, and stuffed toys. Please **no** rags, fabric scraps, toys or household goods. It is difficult and an expense to dispose of these unacceptable items.

Saint Theodore 2023 Annual Community Christmas Card

Dear members and friends of St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church:

Again, the time has come for the Church to prepare its annual Christmas card. It is an opportunity for you to spread the cheer and joy of our Lord's Birth and support the Church. If you wish that your name be included on the card, please complete, detach and mail the bottom portion of this mailing with your minimum donation of \$25.00 made out to St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church by **Sunday, December 3rd**.

Ετήσια Χριστουγεννιάτικη Κοινοτική Κάρτα Αγίου Θεοδώρου

Αγαπητά μέλη και φίλοι του Αγίου Θεοδώρου:

Ήρθε ο καιρός για την Εκκλησία μας να ετοιμάσει την ετήσια Χριστουγεννιάτικη κάρτα. Είναι ευκαιρία για σας να διαδώσετε την χαρά της γέννησης του Χριστού και να υποστηρίξετε την Εκκλησία μας. Αν θέλετε να περιλαμβάνουμε το όνομα σας στην κάρτα, συμπληρώστε και ταχυδρομείστε το απόκομμα του γράμματος μαζί με την δωρεά σας για τουλάχιστον \$25.00 γραμμένη στο όνομα της εκκλησίας, St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church πριν τις 3 Δεκεμβρίου.

2023 Annual Christmas Card—Donation \$25

Saint Theodore Greek Orthodox Church, 7101 Cipriano Road, Lanham, MD 20706

(Print clearly as you wish your name to appear in card/Γράψτε καθαρά όπως θέλετε να φαίνετε στην κάρτα)

Name/Όνομα: _____

Address/Διεύθυνση: _____

Poinsettia Sale

Join the St. Theodore Community as we decorate and beautify the church in celebration of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Minimum Donation - \$25.00 How many _____ Total Amount \$ _____

Donated by: _____ phone number _____

In Memory of _____ For the Health of _____

*All Names will be commemorated during the Consecration of the Holy Gifts on Christmas Day Service.
You may take your poinsettia home after the Christmas service.*

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.

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.



* NEW ** NEW ** NEW ** NEW ** NEW *

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS
& HELP DEFRAY OUR MAILING COSTS**

**ST. THEODORE THE GENERAL
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

info@sttheodores.org

INTRODUCTORY PRICES

1/4 PAGE:

6 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$75.00

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



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

November/Νοέμβριος 2023

Sunday Κυριακή	Monday Δευτέρα	Tuesday Τρίτη	Wednesday Τετάρτη	Thursday Πέμπτη	Friday Παρασκευή	Saturday Σάββατον
			1 Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	2	3	4
5 5th Sunday of Luke/ 5η Κυριακή Λουκά Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am Sunday School/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο	6	7	8 Synaxis of the Archangels/ΤΩΝ ΑΡΧΑΓΓΕΛΩΝ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	9 ST. NEKTARIOS/ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΕΚΤΑΡΙΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	10	11 Veterans Day
12 8th Sunday of Luke/ 8η Κυριακή Λουκά Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am Sunday School/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο Youth Sunday Blessing bags for Homeless	13	14 Parish Council Meeting—7PM	15 Nativity Fast Begins./ΑΡΧΗ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥΓΕΝΝΩΝ Deadline for Old Photos from Events @ St. Theodore Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	16	17	18
19 9th Sunday of Luke/ 9η Κυριακή Λουκά Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am Sunday School/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο	20	21 Entrance of the Theotokos/ΤΑ ΕΙΣΟΔΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00am	22 Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	23 OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY! 	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 13th Sunday of Luke/ 13η Κυριακή Λουκά Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am Sunday School/ Κατηχητικό σχολείο	27	28	29 Bible Study 7PM ONLINE	30		

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

ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑ 2023

Theodore & Maria Adamos
 Charles & Victoria Alevrofas
 Angie Alexion
 AJ & Areti Nikolaou Anderson
 Savas Bakalides
 Sirmatenia Bakalides
 Nektarios & Eleni Banis
 George Banis
 Dimitra Bekos
 Panagiotis & Helen Bekos
 Michalis Bekos
 James & Eleni Galata Bickell
 George & Katherine Billos
 Kristina & TJ Bonner
 Aristeia E. Burdusi
 Michael J. Burdusi
 Fr. Manuel J. & Molly Burdusi
 Nicholas & Julie Burdusi
 Lee & Mary Caprinolo
 Nicholas & Karen Cox
 Mary Curtis
 Jessie Defalco
 Bess Demas
 Spero & Theano Demetrides
 John & Fofa Dimopoulos
 Demetri Dimopoulos
 Katerina, Peter & Chris Exis
 Angeliki Fanourgakis
 George & Angeliki Papaspyrou
 Dimitrios & Myrofora Frantzis
 Spyridon & Stavroula Galiatsatos
 Antonios & Alexandra Gemetzopoulos
 Anastasia Georhristodoulos
 Andreas & Sofia Georhristodoulos
 Angie Geralis
 Paul Gionis
 Demetrius P. Govotsos
 Randy E. & Anna Grow
 Matthew & Payal Halkos
 Timothy & Cheryl Halkos
 Dennis & Mary Pittas Herschbach
 Agisilaos Iliadis
 Athanasios & Foteini Iliopoulos
 John-Peter & Elizabeth Jalbert
 Angela Jones
 Kassiani Kakitsis

Panagos & Maria Kapsalis
 Olga Karahalidis
 Diane Karras
 Panagiota Karras
 Bill & Tina Katcheves
 Kyriakos & Argiro Kiotsekoglou
 Keith & Nicolette Kirby
 Athanasios & Marilu Kolazas
 Spyros & Olga Koliavasilis
 George Kollaros
 Anastasios Kouridis
 Adam & Eftihia Koutelis
 Chrisovalantis & Johanna Koutelis
 Gregory & Vasiliki Kozakos
 Vasiliki & Marianna Kretsiss
 John & Zoe Lazarou
 Erasmia Lois
 Paula Magoulas
 Joshua & Christin Knepper
 Ourania Manessis
 Angelos Manessis
 Polymnia Manessis
 Vasilike Mantzouranis
 John S. Maroulis
 Panagiotis Maroulos
 Aphrodite T. Matsakis, PhD.
 Reed & Gina Melis
 Nicholas & Elaine Michaelides
 Robert & Marilia Michell-Samaras
 Kyriacos Miltiadou
 Paul & Juliana Moniodis
 John & Catherine M. Nazarene
 Vasilika Orfanidis
 Vasilios & Tracy Papadopoulos
 Christopher Papanicolas
 Nikolaos & Maria Paschalidis
 Georgios & Constantina Pelekanos
 Ioannis Perelas
 Sotirios & Evangelia Petropoulos
 Sofia Plagakis
 Phillip & Georgia Plangetis
 Cynthia Popomaronis
 William & Nora Presti
 George Rallis
 Gregory Rallis
 Georgia Romas

Elpis Sakaria
 Maria & Basu Sakaria-Kori
 Ioanna Elisabet Christoforou
 Michael & Anna Sergotick
 Iliana Siarmalis
 Zachary & Victoria Villano Singer
 Gregory & Anastasia Skarvelis
 James Speropulos
 Gregory L. Stamoulis
 Panagiotis & Maria Stefanias
 Daniel & Shea Svihra
 James & Kirstie Tancabel
 Andrew E. Tompros
 Margie & Amelia Tompros
 Chris & Joyce Trikeriotis
 Vasilios & Alexandra Tsiglifis
 Georje & Majida & Maria Tsioumas
 Stella C. Tsourounis
 Deborah Vandamm
 Robert & Christina Villano
 Michael & Christina Walker
 William David Wrigley, PhD
 Peter E. Yakas & Eleni Harlepas
 Pantelis & Anthie Zairis
 Bob & Gina Zick
 Robert & Morgan Zick
 Patricia Zissios
 Tom & Nikki Zizos

As of **October 29, 2023**
 we have a total of 120 stewards
 who have signed up for their
 2023 Stewardship of the Church.
 Please join the membership list
 of supporters.

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.



Beall Funeral Home

*Each Service as Personal
as the Individual*



Family-Owned
and Operated
Thomas P. Zizos, CFSP

Pre-Arrangements
Cremation

Out of Town Arrangements
Complete Funeral Services

Complete Personalization Services

301-805-5544

6512 NW Crain Hwy (Rt. 3 South) Bowie, MD 20715

www.beallfuneral.com