



Monthly Newsletter

St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church Lanham, Maryland



Volume 12, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2020

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

Parish Proistamenos
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St. Theodore the General
Greek Orthodox Church
7101 Cipriano Road
Lanham, MD 20706
www.sttheodores.org

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Church Office:

Monday through Friday
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Phone: 301.552.3540
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Looking forward to the Ecclesiastical New Year

“O Creator of the Universe, setting times and seasons by Your sole Authority, bless the cycle of the Year of Your Grace, O Lord guarding our rulers and Your Nation in peace, at the intercessions of the Mother of God, and save us.”
Apolytikion Hymn of the Indiction on September 1st

I pray that everyone is healthy and ready to begin a new ecclesiastical year. We have gone through much turmoil in 2020 because of the pandemic and it is so important for our faith and commitment to our Lord not waiver but grow and become stronger and more resilient. As Orthodox Christians, we are not called to live an easy life, but to live out our lives knowing that the road to salvation will have its challenges and we need to meet those challenges with faith and endurance and become stronger, not weaker. Just as we set resolutions for the new calendar year, I would like to set before you four questions for you to ask yourselves as we begin this new month of September and new ecclesiastical year. Take the time to ponder your answers and to make a plan for yourself for the new ecclesiastical year.

Q: What do we really **want** to do spiritually this year?

A: _____

Q: What do we really **need** to do spiritually this year?

A: _____

Q: How will we **share** our love of God this year?

A: _____

Q: How will we **succeed** with the goals that we have set above?

A: _____

One’s spiritual life is to be cultivated just as the earth is cultivated for the crops of the land to be planted, for them to grow and then harvested. What will we have to show for our lives at the end when God will ask what did we do with the talents that He gave us. We need to set a plan for ourselves in order to be able to progress in the spiritual life. I wish everyone God’s blessings as we start this New Year. Please remember that in addition to the Sunday Services, we have two weekday services – Tuesday, September 8th is the Birth of the Virgin Mary. Services will begin at 9 a.m. and Monday, September 14th is the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and services will begin at 9 a.m.



MONTHLY NEWS

Sunday School Online

Sunday School will be taught online on Saturdays in the morning beginning at 10:00 a.m. and concluding at 11 a.m. Online class will begin on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 10 a.m. and the platform that we will be using is Google Classroom. Both teachers have recommitted to teaching the class so we are very grateful to Maria Adamos and Georgia Plangetis. If any new students would like to enroll you can contact Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com or Maria Adamos at mnbanis@gmail.com.

Greek School Online

Greek School will also be taught online on Fridays in the evening from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Classes will begin on Friday, September 18 at 5 p.m. and the platform that will be used is most likely either Google Classroom or Zoom. Teaching staff is still being worked out with the Parish Council as well as the curriculum. There will be teaching classes for all three levels – Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced. If any new students would like to enroll you can contact Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com.

Bible Study Online

The bible study will also be offered online on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, September 16th. The platform that we will be using will most likely be Zoom. If you are interested in being a part of the bible study, please send a message to Fr. Manuel at mjburdusi@gmail.com. The bible study will be each Wednesday from September 16th until December 16th.

Stewardship

It is so important for all of us to continue to support the church during these trying times. The church was not able to have its festival this year and that was a shortfall of \$30 - \$40,000 dollars of income that we did not make for this year. That is why we need to respond to the call to help out whatever way we can this year and to possibly give a little more than we did last year. There are many people of the parish that did not complete their 2019 commitment and have not pledged yet or given anything for 2020. Please find it within your hearts to help out whatever way you can. It would be sad for St. Theodore Church to not be able to have services every Sunday and holidays as it does now. The decision is up to all of us how much we value and want St. Theodore to not only survive, but also to thrive. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Remember that our response in giving to the church is an expression of our faith and love to God and His holy church.

In order to become a steward, please complete the Stewardship form (found on our website www.sttheodores.org under Giving or use the form on page 7 that you can mail in.) Stewardship payments may be made monthly by credit card, if desired. Please email square@sttheodores.org with your total pledge and the desired frequency of your payments. Remember, you do not need to pay all at once! Determine the monthly contribution amount that is affordable for you. Stewardship pledges and donations can still be mailed directly to the church, if desired. Include any special instructions for Fr. Manuel or Juliana.

FUNERAL

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, there was a funeral for Nikolaos Dimitrios Takounakis, dearly departed husband of Evangelia Takounakis, and loving father of Maria Hoffman and husband James Hoffman, Alex Takounakis, and wife Dyan Takounakis, Loula Naughton and husband Mike Naughton, Georgio Takounakis and partner Jeff Haddad. Loving grandfather of Carolyn Stallings, Nikolaos Takounakis, Kevin Naughton, Lisa Naughton, Valerie Lewtas, and Steven Naughton. Loving great grandfather of Dylan White Jr, Isaac White, Evangelia White, Layla Lewtas, Kellan Lewtas, and Jonah Lewtas. May his memory be eternal.

MEMORIALS

On Sunday, July 26, 2020, there was a 40-Day Memorial for the soul of Maria Despotides, the dearly departed mother of Irene Cusimano and Helen Jenkins and loving grandmother and great-grandmother. May her memory be eternal.

On August 2, 2020, there was a 40-Day Memorial service for the soul of Jasmine (Yiasemi) Burdusi-Koliber, the dear Aunt of Father Manuel and sister of John M. Burdusi. We will also pray a 40-Day Memorial for the soul of Irene Tsambikos, a dear friend of Father Manuel and family. Mrs. Tsambikos donated the icon of the Pantokrator, which is on the ceiling of the church. May their memory be eternal.

On August 23, 2020, there was a 40-Day Memorial for the soul of Nikolaos Takounakis, dearly departed husband of Evangelia Takounakis, and father of Maria, Alex, Loula, and Georgio, and grandfather to six grandchildren and great grandfather to six great grandchildren. May his memory be eternal.

On August 23, 2020, there was a One-Year Memorial for the soul of Stephen Karahalis, the dearly departed husband of Olga Karahalis, daughters Stephanie Fulk (Brad), Anna Grow (Randy), Nicolette Kirby (Keith) and Christina Chiriaco (James), grandchildren David, Jessica (Darwin), Kyle, Ashley and Stephen and his brother Nicholas Karahalis (Marian). May his memory be eternal.

On August 23, 2020, there was a Three-Year Memorial for the soul of Dukas Gionis (Duke Jones), dearly departed father of Marianne Chenevey, Jason Jones, and Stephen & Paul Gionis, beloved grandfather of Alexia, Timotheos, & David Chenevey, Theseus & Alek Jones, and Christian & Eva Gionis. May his memory be eternal.

TRISAGION

On July, 19, 2020, there was a Seven-Year Trisagion for the soul of George Zairis, the dearly departed father of Pantelis (Anthie) Zairis and grandfather of Panayioti and Yiorgo Zairis. May his memory be eternal.

ARTOCLASIES

On Sunday, July 26, 2020, there was an Artoclasia service in celebration of St. Irene Chrysovalantou and was offered by the families of Adam & Effie Koutelis and Chrysovalantis Antonios and Johanna Koutelis. We wish the families health and all God's blessings.

On Saturday, August 15, 2020, there was an Artoclasia service in celebration of the Dormition of the Theotokos and was offered by Andreas & Georgia Papanicolaou.

On Sunday, August 30, 2020, there was an Artoclasia service in celebration of the feast of St. Alexandros and was offered by the Tsiglifis family.

FEAST OF ST. PHANOURIOS

On Sunday, August 30, 2020, we honored the feastday of St. Phanourios by blessing phanouropites that were brought by: Presvytera Molly Burdusi, Thanasis Kalazas, Vasiliki Mantzouranis, Vasilios & Elizabeth Panoutsopoulos, Andreas & Georgia Papanicolaou and Mrs. Angeliki and family.

Making Arrangements for Sacraments

Please call the Church Office, 301-552-3540 or speak to Fr. Manuel to schedule Weddings at least 6 months in advance and Baptisms 3 months in advance. Please call the office at least one week ahead for Artoclasies, Trisagion or Memorial Services. For home blessings please call Father at 410-241-9690. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

REQUEST FOR VASILIKO (BASIL PLANT)

We will need vasiliko for the 14th of September. Please bring basil to the church on Sunday, September 13th.

USED CLOTHING SHED

Due to the lasting effects of COVID-19, Turn-key has made a decision to TEMPORARILY CLOSE all of their sheds until the end markets reopen. Thank you for supporting the church with your donations. We will update you when it reopens.

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.

CREDIT CARD STEWARDSHIP PARENTS

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

Safeway's eScrip program is a *FREE*, *easy* way for you to support St. Theodore's school programs! St. Theodore's member# 1036768. Contact the church office 301-552-3540 or Nora Presti 410-952-8922 for more information. Every purchase counts, so sign up today!

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

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12 ISSUES CONTRACT: \$125.00

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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
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via mail, email and web every month**

For more information call: 301-552-3540



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Dear Parishioners,

Printed in the Newsletter each month is the form to become a steward 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 stewards to be supportive each and every year. There is no better time than now to remember your church and become a supporting steward. As of today, 120 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	Kyriakos & Argiro Kiotsekoglou	Georgia Romas
Despina Adkins	Keith & Nicolette Kirby	Michael & Evangeline Ross
William & Angie Alexion	Thalia Kiri/mlis	Elpis Sakaria
Syrmatenia Bakalides	Stephen G. Koklas	Michael & Anna Sergotick
George Banis	Athanasios & Marilu Kolazas	Iliana Siarmalis
Nektarios & Eleni Banis	George Kollaros	Zachary & Victoria Villano Singer
Peter P. Boutselis	Anastasios Kouridis	Gregory & Anastasia Skarvelis
Gary Bucious	Mariana Kourkoulakos	Charles & Tara Smith
Aristea E. Burdusi	Maria Koustenis	Amalia Spanos
John Burdusi	Adam & Eftihia Koutelis	Nicholas & Sevasti Spanos
Fr. Manuel J. & Molly Burdusi	Chrisovalantou & Johanna Koutelis	Katherine Spathis
Michael J. Burdusi	Vasilios Koutelis	James Speropulos
Nicholas & Julie Burdusi	Louis C. Kouvaris	Gregory L. Stamulis
Bruce & Katerina Burleson	Nikolaos & Vasiliki Kretsiss	James Tancabel
Lee & Mary Caprinolo	John & Zoe Lazarou	Andrew E. Tompros
Nicholas & Dina Chahaliss	Paula Magoulas	Margie Tompros
Michael & Anna Chandler	Dimitri Makres	Chris & Joyce Trikeriotis
George & Mary Charuhas	Christina Malliakos	Vasilios & Alexandra Tsiglifis
Ioanna Elisabet Christoforou	Ourania Manessis	Helen D. Tsintolas
Ariadne Coules	Polymnia Manessis	Georje & Majida & Maria Tsioumas
Patrick & Mary Curtis	John S. Maroulis	Stella C. Tsourounis
Irene Cusimano	Panagiotis Marousis	Gregory & Andriana Tuthill
Spero & Theano Demetrides	Aphrodite T. Matsakis, PhD.	Deborah Vandamm
John & Fofu Dimopoulos	Reed & Gina Melis	Robert & Christina Villano
Demetri Dimopoulos	Nicholas & Elaine Michaelides	William David Wrigley, PhD
Katerina, Peter & Chris Exis	Gerasimos Andreas Michalitsianos	Peter E. Yakas & Eleni Harlepas
Angeliki Fanourgakis	Robert & Marilia Michell-Samaras	Pantelis & Anthie Zairis
Ben & Lauren Rajewski Ferry	Paul & Juliana Moniodis	Tom & Nikki Zizos
Angeliki Frangos	Vasilios & Evangelia Nasios	
Dimitrios & Myrofora Frantzis	John & Catherine M. Nazarene	
Angie Germalis	Ryan & Ariadne Nicole O'Rourke	
Paul Gionis	Voula, Billy & Ioanna Pantazes	
Randy E. & Anna Grow	Afroditi E. Papadopoulos	
Matthew Halkos & Payal Amin	Vasilios & Tracy Papadopoulos	
Timothy & Cheryl Halkos	George Papaspyrou	
Dennis & Mary Pittas Herschbach	Nikolaos & Maria Paschalidis	
Stella Higgs	Georgios & Constantina Counavelis-Pelekanos	
Peter & Theoni Hiotis	Ioannis Perelas	
John-Peter Jalbert & Elizabeth Demetrides	George & Janet Philipopoulos	
Angela Jones	Phillip & Georgia Plangetis	
Kassiani Kakitsis	Anthony Presti	
Panagos & Maria Kapsalis	William & Nora Presti	
Olga Karahaliss	George Rallis	
Diane Karras	Gregory Rallis	
Bill & Tina Katcheves	Stamatis Rodousakis	
Angela Katsakis		

As of **August 31, 2020**, we have a total of 120 stewards who have signed up for their 2020 Stewardship of the Church.

2020 Goal is \$100,000.00
Total pledged to date: \$62,782.00
Total paid to date: \$52,712.00
Balance Due: \$10,070.00

CREDIT CARD STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS

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

September/Σεπτέμβριος 2020

	Monday Δευτέρα	Tuesday Τρίτη	Wednesday Τετάρτη	Thursday Πέμπτη	Friday Παρασκευή	Saturday Σάββατο
		1 <i>Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year/Αρχή του Εκκλησιαστικού Έτος</i>	2	3	4	5
6 <i>13th Sunday of Matthew/13η Κυριακή Ματθαίου</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	7 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Office closed</i>	8 <i>Nativity of the Theotokos/ΤΟ ΓΕΝΕΘΛΙΟΝ ΤΗΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:15 am	9	10	11 <i>Remember 9/11</i>	12
13 <i>Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross/Κυριακή προ της Ύψωσης του Τιμίου Σταυρού</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	14 <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross—Strict Fasting/Ύψωσης του Τιμίου Σταυρού (ΑΥΣΤΗΡΗ ΝΗΣΤΕΙΑ)</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	15	16 Bible study online 7pm.	17	18 Greek school online 5pm	19 Sunday school online 10am
20 <i>Sunday after Holy Cross/Κυριακή μετά της Ύψωσης</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - Θ. ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	21	22	23 Bible study online 7pm.	24	25 Greek school online 5pm	26 Sunday school online 10am
27 <i>1st Sunday of Luke/Πρώτη Κυριακή Λουκά</i> Matins & Divine Liturgy/ ΟΡΘΡΟΣ - ΘΕΙΑ ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ 9:00/10:00 am	28	29	30 Bible study online 7pm.			
<p>Official Twitter account of St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church of Maryland : St. Theodore GOC (@sttheodoremd)</p>						



STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT FORM - 2020

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 _____

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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 2020.

\$ _____ 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.

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 _____



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