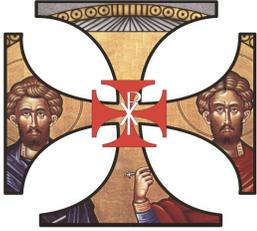


2026 Peter Manasses Memorial Scholarship



Overview of Scholarship: The 2026 Philoptochos *Peter Manasses* Scholarship is designed to recognize and support individuals who are making a meaningful difference in their communities through their commitment to worship, service, outreach, and ministry within the Orthodox Church and the broader community.

Students who are in their **Senior year of high school or undergraduate studies** in a **4 year college/university** are encouraged to apply for the Peter Manasses Memorial *Scholarship*.

- **Two (2)** scholarships will be awarded to graduating High School Seniors.
- **Two (2)** scholarships will be awarded to current Undergraduate students.

Please note that applicants who have been awarded a scholarship by the Philoptochos organization in the previous two years are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. The applicant must be a son/daughter of a current steward of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church.

All applications must be emailed no later than **midnight, May 28, 2026**. Incomplete applications or those emailed after this date will not be processed. All information received from applicants will be treated as confidential. **Scholarship winners will be notified by Friday, June 12.**

Overview: The Peter Manasses Scholarship honors the memory of Mr. Manasses by recognizing students who embody his strength of character and spirit. We are seeking applicants who demonstrate:

- The ability to persevere and maintain a positive attitude in the face of obstacles, mirroring the determination of Mr. Manasses.
- A commitment to the Orthodox Church and the broader community, evidenced by taking on leadership roles in school clubs or organizations and leading by example to effect positive change.
- Exceptional academic achievement and a dedication to the pursuit of knowledge, reflecting a desire to contribute positively to society.
- An active engagement in initiatives that celebrate and preserve our cultural heritage.
- Compassion and empathy for the well-being of others, demonstrated through volunteerism and support for those in need.

Essay Prompt : *Reflecting on the core values of this scholarship: service, leadership, and compassion, write an essay discussing your involvement with Philoptochos or similar philanthropic groups. Please address the following in your response: What specific lessons about charity and community service have you learned through your involvement? How have these experiences allowed you to demonstrate leadership, preserve your cultural heritage, or show empathy to those in need? How has your service experience emphasized the importance of education (and specifically your chosen field of study) in understanding and solving community issues?*

Submission Requirements:

Please send the **four required components listed below** as **one PDF** file in the following order:

1. **Essay:** 500-800 words in length, double spaced. Do not include any identifying information in the essay.
2. **Resume** (No more than 2 pages in length) (See page 2 for guidance)
3. **Letter or Email of Acceptance from College/University**
4. **Student Information/Certification Page** (see page 3)

The following components should be emailed directly to englishteacher30@yahoo.com by recommenders prior to May 28th.

- **Official Transcripts:** Must be submitted through **Parchment** and sent directly as official copies.
- **2 Letters of Recommendation:** One letter must be from a teacher, advisor, counselor, dean, or coach. The second letter may be from a recommender of the applicant's choice. *Please request letters of recommendation as soon as possible as a professional courtesy to your recommenders.*

Guidelines for the Essay:

Write a 500-800 word essay that discusses your involvement with Philoptochos or similar philanthropic groups and the lessons you learned about charity and community service. How has this involvement emphasized the value of education in understanding and solving community issues?

Guidelines for the Resume:

- **Parish Activities (St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church):** List **activities** such as **Altar Service, Choir**..Specify the **number of months/years** involved and **duties performed**. List Offices Held, Awards, and Special Achievements.
- **School Activities:** Include **sports, clubs, volunteer work**, and other extracurricular involvement.
- **Additional Extracurricular or Community Activities/Services**
- **Work experience.**

Thank you for your time and interest. We look forward to reading your inspiring experiences and learning about the positive impact you are making in your community. Please reach out to englishteacher30@yahoo.com with any questions.

Student Information Page

Student's Name: _____

Parents' Name: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

Name of High School: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Major Field of Study: _____

Name of College/University: _____

Address of School: _____

Certification

- I understand that this application is complete and that my essay reflects my authentic voice and original writing.
- I have requested that my official transcripts be sent through **Parchment**.
- I have requested two letters of recommendation at least two weeks in advance.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

All applications must be emailed no later than **midnight, May 28, 2026**. **Any incomplete applications submitted after this date will not be processed.** All information received from applicants will be treated as confidential.



Evaluation Rubric: Faith In Action

	Exceptional (9-10 points)	Proficient (7-8 points)	Adequate (5-6 points)
Essay	The essay is well-organized, clear, and engaging . The essay clearly and explicitly connects the student's community involvement to the value of education and vocational training in addressing and solving community issues.	The essay is somewhat organized but may have areas that lack clarity or fluidity . The essay makes a basic connection between community involvement and education/vocational training, but the explanation lacks depth or clarity .	The essay lacks organization and clarity , making it difficult to follow. The connection between community involvement and education/vocational training is weak or unclear . The student does not effectively explain how their education will help solve community issues
Activities & Involvement (Academic, Parish, and Community)	The candidate is actively engaged in a wide range of academic, parish, and community activities, demonstrates leadership in one or more areas, and shows a strong commitment to serving others.	The candidate participates in academic, parish, and/or community activities and may demonstrate some leadership or initiative.	The candidate shows limited participation in academic, parish, and community activities.
Scholastic Achievement	The candidate demonstrates exceptional academic skills. Weighted GPA is 3.8 or higher	The candidate demonstrates adequate academic skills. Weighted GPA is 3.5-3.7	The candidate demonstrates some academic skills. Weighted GPA is lower than a 3.5
Letters of Recommendation	The recommendation demonstrates a strong familiarity with the student's work, providing highly detailed examples of their promise based on personal experience. The letter includes several positive comments , offering comprehensive praise that highlights the student's strengths, character, and potential for success.	The recommendation shows clear familiarity with the student's work, offering several detailed examples of their abilities from personal experience. The letter includes a few positive comments , providing extensive praise that supports the student's qualifications and future potential.	The recommendation demonstrates some familiarity with the student's work, providing a few examples of their promise from personal experience. The letter contains minimal positive comments , offering only a basic level of support and praise for the student.

