



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
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News & Announcements
October 20, 2019

6th Sunday of Luke – Saint Gerasimos of Cephalonia
Κυριακή βη του Λουκα – Εορτή του Αγίου Γερασιμου



- [Artemius the Great Martyr of Antioch](#) 10/20/2019
- [Matrona the Righteous of Chios](#) 10/20/2019
 - [Gerasimus of Cephalonia](#) 10/20/2019
- Andronicus the Righteous Martyr 10/20/2019

NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Sunday Worship Schedule: Matins 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

To Our Visitors and Guests

We welcome you to worship with us today, whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion and other Sacraments are offered only to baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians in good standing with the Church, all are invited to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The Antidoron is not a sacrament, but it is reminiscent of the agape feast that followed worship in the ancient Christian Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning please join us in the Church Hall for fellowship and refreshments. Please complete a Visitor's Card before you leave today and drop it in the offering tray, or give it to one of the parishioners after the service, or mail it to the Church Office.

The Sunday Epistle Reading

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11



Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς.

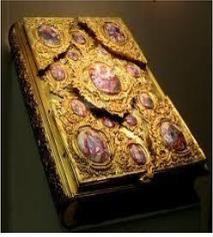
Στίχ. Ἀγαλλιᾶσθε δίκαιοι ἐν Κυρίῳ

Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 9:6-11 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ σπείρων φειδομένως, φειδομένως καὶ θερίσει· καὶ ὁ σπείρων ἐπ' εὐλογίαις, ἐπ' εὐλογίαις καὶ θερίσει. Ἐκαστος καθὼς προαιρεῖται τῇ καρδίᾳ· μὴ ἐκ λύπης ἢ ἐξ ἀνάγκης· ἰλαρὸν γὰρ δότην ἀγαπᾷ ὁ θεός. Δυνατὸς δὲ ὁ θεὸς πᾶσαν χάριν περισσεῦσαι εἰς ὑμᾶς, ἵνα ἐν παντὶ πάντοτε πᾶσαν αὐτάρκειαν ἔχοντες περισσεύητε εἰς πᾶν ἔργον ἀγαθόν· καθὼς γέγραπται, Ἐσκόρπισεν, ἔδωκεν τοῖς πένησιν· ἡ δικαιοσύνη αὐτοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ὁ δὲ ἐπιχορηγῶν σπέρμα τῷ σπείροντι, καὶ ἄρτον εἰς βρῶσιν χορηγήσει, καὶ πληθύνει τὸν σπόρον ὑμῶν, καὶ αὐξήσῃ τὰ γενήματα τῆς δικαιοσύνης ὑμῶν· ἐν παντὶ πλουτιζόμενοι εἰς πᾶσαν ἀπλότητα, ἧτις κατεργάζεται δι' ἡμῶν εὐχαριστίαν τῷ θεῷ.

The Sunday Gospel Reading

The Gospel According to Luke 8:26-39



At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν Ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα 8:26-39

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν, ἣτις ἐστὶν ἀντίπερα τῆς Γαλιλαίας. ἐξελθόντι δὲ αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἀνὴρ τις ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὃς εἶχε δαιμόνια ἐκ χρόνων ἱκανῶν, καὶ ἱμάτιον οὐκ ἐνεδιδύσκετο καὶ ἐν οἰκίᾳ οὐκ ἔμενεν, ἀλλ' ἐν τοῖς μνήμασιν. ἰδὼν δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἀνακράζας προσέπεσεν αὐτῷ καὶ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ εἶπε· τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ, υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου; δέομαί σου, μὴ με βασανίσῃς. παρήγγειλε γὰρ τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ ἐξελεθεῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. πολλοῖς γὰρ χρόνοις συνηπάκει αὐτόν, καὶ ἐδεσμεῖτο ἀλύσει καὶ πέδαις φυλασσόμενος, καὶ διαρρήσων τὰ δεσμὰ ἠλαύνετο ὑπὸ τοῦ δαίμονος εἰς τὰς ἐρήμους. ἐπηρώτησε δὲ αὐτὸν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· τί σοὶ ἐστὶν ὄνομα; ὃ δὲ εἶπε· λεγεῶν· ὅτι δαιμόνια πολλὰ εἰσῆλθον εἰς αὐτόν· καὶ παρεκάλει αὐτόν ἵνα μὴ ἐπιτάξῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον ἀπελθεῖν. ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ ἀγέλη χοίρων ἱκανῶν βοσκομένων ἐν τῷ ὄρει· καὶ παρεκάλουν αὐτόν ἵνα ἐπιτρέψῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς ἐκείνους εἰσελθεῖν· καὶ ἐπέτρεπεν αὐτοῖς. ἐξελθόντα δὲ τὰ δαιμόνια ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἰσῆλθον εἰς τοὺς χοίρους, καὶ ὥρμησεν ἡ ἀγέλη κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν λίμνην καὶ ἀπεπνίγη. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ βόσκοντες τὸ γεγεννημένον ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς. ἐξῆλθον δὲ ἰδεῖν τὸ γεγονός, καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ εὔρον καθήμενον τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἀφ' οὗ τὰ δαιμόνια ἐξεληλύθει, ἱματισμένον καὶ σωφρονοῦντα παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτοῖς οἱ ἰδόντες πῶς ἐσώθη ὁ δαιμονισθείς. καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν ἅπαν τὸ πλῆθος τῆς περιχώρου τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν ἀπελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι φόβῳ μεγάλῳ συνείχοντο. αὐτὸς δὲ ἐμβὰς εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ὑπέστρεψεν. ἐδέετο δὲ αὐτοῦ ὁ ἀνὴρ, ἀφ' οὗ ἐξεληλύθει τὰ δαιμόνια, εἶναι σὺν αὐτῷ· ἀπέλυσε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· ὑπόστρεφε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου καὶ διηγοῦ ὅσα ἐποίησέ σοι ὁ Θεός. καὶ ἀπῆλθε καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν κηρύσσων ὅσα ἐποίησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς.

PHILOPTOCHOS REMINDER: This is a reminder that we will have a Philoptochos Board meeting after church this Sunday, October 20th. Please plan to attend as we have a LOT coming up. Thank You.

**Love,
Lia Christakos**

Religious Services for October 2019

- 6 – 3rd Sunday of Luke - 9:00 am*
13 - Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council - 9:00 am
18 - Friday– Luke the Evangelist – 9:00 am
20 – 6th Sunday of Luke – Saint Gerasimos of Cephalonia – 9:00 am
26 – Saturday - St. Demetrios - 9:00 am
27- 7th Sunday of Luke – 9:00 am
28 – Monday - Holy Protection of the Theotokos - 9:00 am

Dear Parishioners.

Last summer the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America approved new Policies for the Safety of Youth and Children. St. Barbara must comply with these new policies by September 1, 2019 or we will no longer be allowed to have any youth ministry programs or events.

Compliance is a fairly simple process. First, all youth workers must complete a registration form (and re-register each year). Second, all youth workers must complete online training each year. This training course will be provided by the Archdiocese and will be released soon. Finally, all youth workers must complete a background check every two years. The background check will be performed by the Archdiocese safety vendor, Praesidium.

Youth Workers include anyone working in a youth ministry program or event such as Sunday school, Greek school, HOPE/JOY, youth choir and Greek dance. Parents supervising their own children in the Preschool Sunday school class are not considered youth workers.

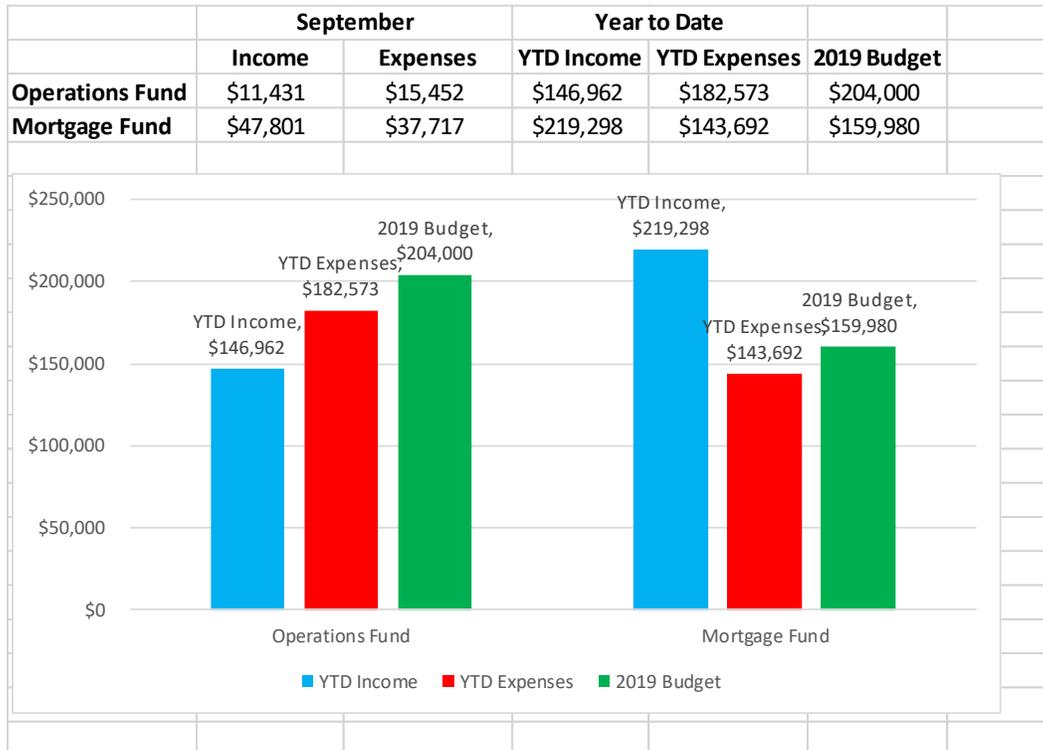
Although the training isn't available, I would like to go ahead and start collecting registration forms from our youth workers. If you are a youth worker or are interested in becoming a youth worker, please contact me for the registration form.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions concerning the policies, compliance or whether you are considered a youth worker. I am also including this blog post from GOARCH which has more information about the policies and compliance.

<https://blogs.goarch.org/blog/-/blogs/taking-the-next-step-in-youth-safety>

Kerri Zaferatos
PC Member of St Barbara Durham

Parish Financial Summary



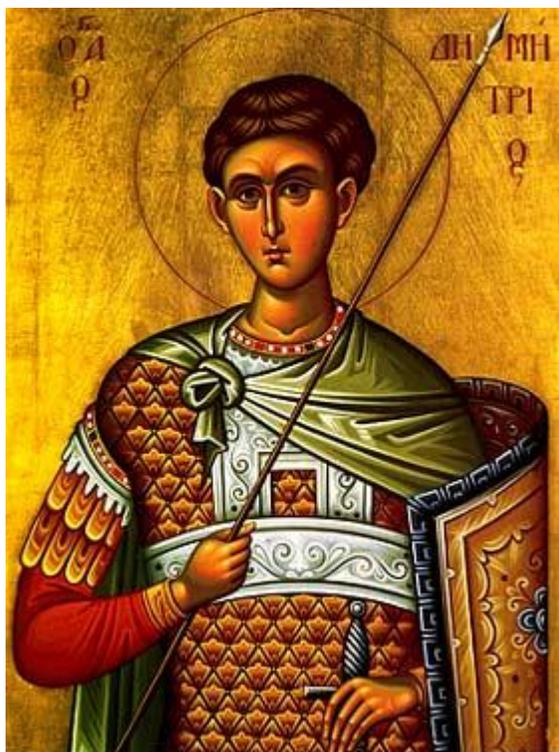
Note: The Operations Fund income above is the total of Sunday offering and Stewardship; it excludes the Greek Festival. The Operations Fund pays all Church expenses except for the mortgage payment. The Mortgage Fund includes all Mortgage Fund donations and fundraisers (e.g., Taste of Greece, Gyro Feast). The Mortgage Fund pays our mortgage which is \$12,713.36/month.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ Our mortgage fund did very well last month as we finally closed and settled on the townhome which former parishioner Marie Council so generously left to St. Barbara Church in her estate. After expenses, we netted about \$40,000 which the Parish Council voted to deposit in the Mortgage Fund.
- ❖ Several years ago, the Parish Council voted to borrow \$25,000 from the Contingency Fund to pay the mortgage because the mortgage fund was insufficient. The Parish Council voted to repay this loan, transferring \$25,000 from the Mortgage Fund back to the Contingency Fund.
- ❖ Despite the good news for the Mortgage Fund, the Stewardship Fund is not doing as well. Our deficit has grown over the past 4 months as stewardship giving declined significantly over the summer months. For the first time this year, total stewardship giving has fallen below target.
- ❖ If you have not a steward, please prayerfully consider completing a stewardship form and pledge. If you are a steward but have fallen behind because of vacation or other reasons (I know I have), please prayerfully consider “catching up”. Finally, if this is the time of year when you receive your annual raise (hope it’s a good one!), please consider increasing your stewardship as well.

❖ STEWARDSHIP 2019

- ❖ Dear Parishioners and Stewards,
- ❖ As we turn toward the end of 2019 please continue to keep our Church in your thoughts and prayers. Now is a good time to check the status of your Stewardship Pledge giving and be sure you're on track to meet your pledge. If you haven't made a Stewardship pledge or contribution for 2019 now is the time to make one or increase your contribution.
- ❖ Please remember, that in order to vote at the General Assembly Meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2019 and in the Sunday, December 8, 2019 Election for Parish Council members, you need to be a Steward in good standing.
- ❖ **Thank you for your continued support of St Barbara's everyday expenses and Ministries.**
- ❖ **THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**



Saturday October 26 Feast of Saint Demetrios Matins & Divine Liturgy starting at 9:00 am

Saint Demetrios suffered in Thessalonica during the reign of Galerius Maximian (c. 306). He belonged to one of the most distinguished families of the province of Macedonia and was widely admired not only because of his noble ancestry and grace of bearing, but also for virtue, wisdom and goodness of heart surpassing that of his elders. The military expertise of Saint Demetrios led Galerius, as Caesar of the Eastern Empire, to appoint him commander of the Roman forces in Thessaly and Proconsul for Hellas. But for all this, Demetrios remained ever aware of the underlying realities of life. Since faith in Christ had touched his heart, all the glory of this world meant nothing to him, and there was nothing he preferred to teaching and preaching the word of God.

Despite the persecution directed against Christians by the Emperor, Saint Demetrios brought a large number of pagans to the faith. His words convinced them because they saw in the righteousness, peace and brotherly love that marked his life an illustration of the truth of which he spoke.

The Emperor Maximian had just won a series of brilliant victories over the Scythians and was on his way back to Rome when he halted at Thessalonica to receive the acclamations of the populace and to offer sacrifices in thanksgiving to the idols. A number of pagans, envious of the success of the Saint, took advantage of the Emperor's presence in the city to denounce Demetrios as a Christian. Maximian's astonishment gave way to violent indignation when he was told that Demetrios' was making use of his official position to spread the faith. Demetrios was summoned and confined in a cell, located in the basement of nearby baths.

Maximian arranged for games and gladiatorial combats to take place in the amphitheater of the city. He had brought with him a man of gigantic stature and Herculean strength called Lyaios, a Vandal by origin. Such was this man's strength and skill in single combat that no one could withstand him. There was in the city a young Christian called Nestor, who observing the empty pride of the Emperor in the victories of his champion, made up his mind to

show him that real power belongs to Christ alone. He ran to the baths where Demetrios was imprisoned and asked for the protection of his prayer in going to confront the giant. The Martyr made the sign of the Cross on the brow and the heart of the boy, and sent him like David before Goliath. He reached the amphitheater just as the heralds were crying out on all sides for any who would stand against Lyaivos. Advancing towards the Emperor, Nestor threw his tunic to the ground and shouted, "God of Demetrios, help me!" In the first encounter, at the very moment the giant rushed upon him, Nestor slipped aside and stabbed him to the heart with his dagger. There was uproar and amazement at the marvel, and people asked themselves how a mere child, relying neither on strength nor weapons, could so suddenly have brought down the barbarian.

Rather than yield to the sign of the sovereign power of God, the Emperor flew into a rage and ordered the immediate arrest of Nestor and his beheading outside the city. He had heard Nestor calling upon the God of Demetrios and, supposing the Saint had used some kind of witchcraft, Maximian ordered his soldiers to go and thrust Demetrios through with their lances, without trial, in the depths of his prison cell. There were some Christians, including Demetrios' servant Lupus, present at his martyrdom, and when the soldiers had gone, they reverently buried the Saint's body.

It was God's will that the grace with which He filled Saint Demetrios should remain active even after his death. This is why He caused to flow from his body a myron with a delightful scent, which had the property of healing all who took it as an unction, with faith in the intercession of the Saint. Time and again, during sixteen hundred years, Saint Demetrios has given proof of his benevolent care for the city of Thessalonica and its inhabitants. He has defended them from the attacks of barbarians, he has preserved them from plague and famine, healed the sick and comforted the afflicted.

Adapted from The Synaxarion: The Lives of the Saints of the Orthodox Church, Vol. 1, compiled by Hieromonk Makarios of Simonos Petra and translated from the French by Christopher Hookway (Chalkidike, Greece: Holy Convent of the Annunciation of Our Lady, 1998) pp. 481-483.

Orthodox Christian Celebration of the Feast of Saint Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer

The feast and commemoration of Saint Demetrios is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom which is conducted on the morning of the feast and preceded by a Matins (Orthros) service. A Great Vespers is conducted on the evening before the day of the Feast.

Scripture readings for the feast are the following: At Vespers: Isaiah 63:15-64:5,8-9; Jeremiah 2:1-12; Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9. At the Matins: Luke 11:12-20. At the Divine Liturgy: II Timothy 2:1-10; John 15:17-16:2. (If the feast falls on a Sunday the Gospel readings may vary.)

Hymns of the Feast

Apolytikion (Third Tone)

The world has found in you a great champion in time of peril, as you emerged the victor in routing the barbarians. For as you brought to naught the boasts of Lyaivos, imparting courage to Nestor in the stadium, in like manner, holy one, great Martyr Demetrios, invoke Christ God for us, that He may grant us His great mercy.

Kontakion (Second Tone)

God, who gave you invincible power and with care kept your city invulnerable, royally clothed the Church in purple with the streams of your blood, for you are her strength, O Demetrios.

Apolytikion and Kontakion courtesy of Holy Cross Press, Brookline, MA



***Join us for St. Barbara Community Nights!
6- 8 pm***

Join us as we enjoy food and fellowship as a church family. All ages are welcome! This program will consist of a 5-part short lesson series on being disciples of Christ. Pot luck dinner starts at 6:00 pm. Bring enough food for yourself and your family (main dish, side, or dessert--your choice, just make sure it's meat-free since this is a fast day). Kids will have their own activities so parents can enjoy fellowship with the other adults. See you this Friday!

Proposed lesson topics:

Sept. 20 - Introduction/Called to be Disciples

Oct. 25 - Identity in Christ

Nov. 15 - The costs of being a disciple

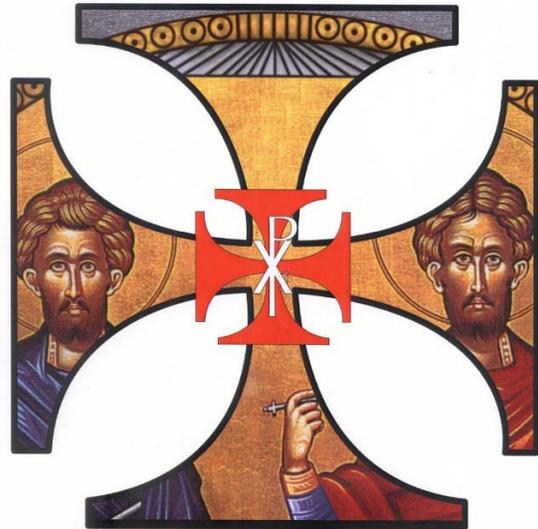
Jan. 17 - The rewards of being a disciple

Feb. 21 - Stewardship – How do I use my talents?

Blood DRIVE



PHILOPTOCHOS



Dear Parishioners,

In the early part of 2020, St. Barbara's Ahepans and Philoptochos members will be jointly hosting a blood drive. We would like to know if you will
1) donate blood (all types are needed) and / or
2) assist with the coordination of the blood drive.

Please email Andrew Christakos (acchris1114@gmail.com) with your desire to participate. We would like to have as many members as possible come out and support this worthy cause. Details, including date and time, will be forthcoming.

Thank you.

Stewards as of October 7, 2019

Our 2019 Stewardship drive is going quite well. We have 144 Stewards as of October 7, 2019, 90% of our goal of 160 for the year. Thank you. Please help us meet our goal very soon by pledging your support, don't wait until year end, our expenses don't stop. Your time, talents and treasury are critical to the success of our Ministries.

Also please give prayerful consideration to the amount of your 2019 contribution so that we can meet our budget and cover unforeseen expenses. We are currently below what we need to fund our expenses. Stewardship is the primary source of the funding for our Ministries and operating obligations.

John & Elly Ackerly	Gus & Vanessa Demetriades	Azeb Martin	Vaia Sigounas & Adam Silverstein
Susan Alexander	Anne Dennos	Ellene Mashalidis	Nick Simos
Alec and Frances Alexiades	George & Patricia Dennos	Dr. Nikolaos Maurogiorgos & Dr. Marjory Charlot	Dr. Charles Stamitoleos
Matt & Vickie Amos	Betty Bouchlas Dorton	Panayiotis Mavroidis & Dimitra Sakellaris	Mattheos & Marika Stavrakakis
Alexander & Laurel Arapoglou	Elena Dufault	MaryJon McWhirter	Zoe Stafanadis
Dr. Marina Arvanitis	Brian & Maria Easton	Rodney & Katharine Meadows	Hon. Ron & Vicky Stephens
William & Donna Athas	Laurice Ferris	Gus & Yael Megaloudis	Peter Saloupis
Basile & Mary Bakis	Dimitra Fitzherbert	Matthew & Tina Megaro	Theone Saltis
George & Marie Bakis	David Flynn & Sabina Borza Flynn	John & Dawn Mehalek	Andrea Stoney
Nicholas & Eugenia Balafas	Dr. Crist & Maria Frangakis	Nicholas Mermigas	William & Jennifer Sullivan
Effie Barbee	Socratis & Aliko Gerondelis	Davis & Courtney Napier	Marian P. Sunas
Lance & Maria Barton	Dr. George & Dr. Amy Glekas	Larry & Hope Odzak	Senait Tesfatsion
Thalia Becak	Jim & Evy Glekas	Richard Oladipo	Rebecca Theophanous
Tamar Beridze	Christopher Goodwin	Cindy Paliouras	Konstantinos Theodosiadis
John Biggs & Diana Dobrica	Leonard & Elaine Goodwin	Jim & Helen Paliouras	Zacharias Theodosiadis
Agape Blackley	Paul Kacoyanis	John & Dena Paliouras	Charalmbos & Cathy Tragas
Barbara Bonfiglio	Christos & Janet Kamilaris	Niko Paliouras	Donna Trohanis
Marilyn Boska	Nicholas Kamilaris	Peter & Evelyn Panos	Tryphon & Suzanne Tryphonos
Nick Bourbous	Ed & Eve Kantner	Yuri & Elena Panov	Lou Tsipis
Peter Bourbous	Antonios & Claire Karamalegos	James & Stella Pantelidis	Dr. Dimitrios Varelas
Peter Bougades	George & Karen Karas	George & Janet Pantermakis	Georgina Varellas
Katherine Marie Callahan	Dr. Thomas Kash & Dr. Zoe McElligott	Kleanthis & Angeika Papanickas	John Varelas
Manuel & Carole Capsalis	Dr. Kenneth & Karen Korach	Sam & Cleo Papanikas	Janetis Vassiliades
Sophie Carr	Helen Koutouzakis	Matina Papazoglou	Demi Vlachos
Andrew & Cheryl Christakos	James Koutsis	Katherine Pappas	Helen Vurnakes
Dr. Arthur Christakos	Dr. Andrew Kuyper	Dr. Ted & Theky Pappas	James & Frances Vurnakes
Eleni Christakos	Dr. Lee & Pauline Kuyper	George Pashales	Ray & Eleni Walter
Lia Christakos	Elias & Madeline Lambiris	Wes Platt & Catherine Constatinou	Alexa Waters
George & Deborah Christie	Catherine Lewis	Henry & Judith Presler	Preston & Catherine Wilson
Dr. Bessie Chronaki	George Livanos & Renee Lisander	Daniel & Lori Przybyl	Diane Winans
Erie Cocolas	Katherine Livas	Olgha Qaqish	Robert & Roberta Wippich
Costa Constantinou	Thalia Lyras	Angela Quint	Grace Witham & Nick Brantley
Lou Constantinou	Fr. Stavroforos Mamaies	Keith & Alexia Rheinhardt	Jonathan & Maria Wood
Dean Costas	Daniel & Hrisavgi Mangum	Al & Christine Safarikas	Betsy Xenakis
Sharan Dababnah	Johnny & Catherine Mariakakis		Dino & Kerri Zaferatos
George & Helen Dais	Dr. Pete & Joan Marinos		Christina Zehia
John & Ana Dates			Tony & Evelyn Zehia

Notice of General Assembly



There will be a General Assembly held on November 10, 2019 in the Social Hall immediately following the Divine Liturgy. A light lunch will be served by the Parish Council. The agenda for the meeting will include:

- Preliminary Financial Report for 2019
- Proposed Operations Fund and Mortgage Fund budgets for 2020
- Nominations for Parish Council elections
- Any other items community members wish to raise
- General remarks by Father Stavroforos

Ιερες Ακολουθειες του Ωκτωβρη 2019

6 – Κυριακη – Τριτη Κυριακη Λουκα – 9:00 π.μ.

13 – Κυριακη των Αγιων Πατερων της 7ης Οικουμενικης Συνοδου – 9:00 π.μ.

18 – Παρασκευη – Λουκα του Ευαγγελιστου – 9:00 π.μ.

20 – 6η Κυριακη του Λουκα – 9:00 π.μ.

26 – Σαββατο – Του Αγιου Μεγαλομαρτυρος Δημητριου – 9:00 π.μ.

27 – 7η Κυριακη Λουκα – 9:00 π.μ.

28 – Η Αγια Σκεπη της Υπεραγιας Θεοτοκου – 9:00 π.μ.

Today's Feast of Saint Gerasimos

Saint Gerasimos was according to tradition born in Trikala of Korinthia in 1506. His father's Name was Dimitrios and his mother was called Kali. His father's origins were of the Byzantine aristocracy, the Notarades family. Saint Gerasimoses orthodox name was George. Saint Gerasimos was raised and educated as every upper-class boy of that time. When he was twenty he decided to go to Zante that was an important centre of culture of the era while despite the Venetian occupation there was a renaissance atmosphere contrary to the condition prevailing in the rest of the country conquered by the Turks.



THE ASSUMPTION OF SAINT GERASIMOS

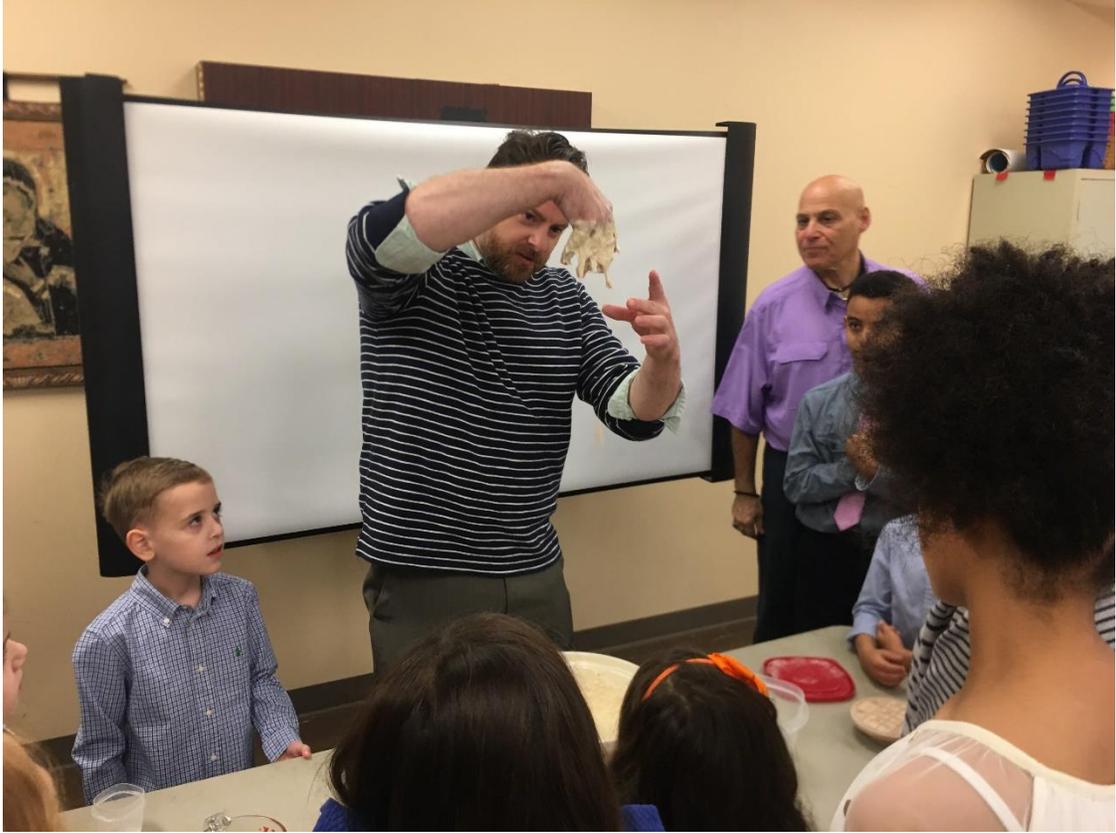
His deep belief of the orthodox faith made him leave Zante to the most important religious and spiritual centres of those times. Constantinople and the Ecumenical Patriarchate was his first destination where he took the Patriarch's blessings and then moved to the mount of Athos, where he became a monk. There is not much that we know about which was the monastery he chose. However many historians assume that it

was the monastery of Iviri and that he became a hermit in the cell of Saint Vassilios in the area of Kapsala. Saint Gerasimos according to the biographers stayed in Mount Athos for a while and left it when he decided to travel across the Holy Lands. He must have arrived there by 1538. Apart from the Holy Grave he also visited Syria, Damascus, Sina, Antiohia, Alexandria and the Thivais desert.

The Patriarch in Jerusalem appreciated Gerasimos and his personality and kept him by his side to take over as a verger in the Holy Grave. In Jerusalem Saint Gerasimos was ordained deacon and senior by the Patriarch of Jerusalem Germanos by the name Gerasimos in honour of Saint Gerasimos the Jordanian. In 1548 Saint Gerasimos left Jerusalem to travel to Crete where he stayed for two years. By then he returned to Zante after a pilgrimage of 20 years that brought him closer to God.

In Zante Saint Gerasimos became a hermit in a cave in Saint Nikolas that the locals still call it the «cave of Saint Gerasimos». There are mentions that he was also a curate in the church of Saint Lazarus. At that same time, Saint Dionyssios was also born and some tradition wants him baptized by Saint Gerasimos. The certain thing is that Saint Dionissios was deeply affected by the personality of Saint Gerasimos who was already well known in the island. The period of the Venetian occupation was difficult in all aspects especially in that of religion as the Catholic Church was making attempts to convert the local population. Saint Gerasimos decided to go to Kefalonia. He became a hermit once more to a cave near Argostoli . He stayed in that cave for 5 years and 11 months and then decided to settle in the area of Omali at the foot of Mount Ainos where he founded a monastery. Crowds of people were streaming to the monastery to listen to his teachings. There used to be a chapel in the area of Omali devoted to the Assumption of the Virgin which was granted together with the surrounding fields to Saint Gerasimos by the priest of the area Georgios Valsamos in 1561. The Saint founded a monastery there named «New Jerusalem» with the permission and blessings of the bishop of the island Pahomios Makris. Since then his fame spread all over the Christian world. After his application, the patriarchate set the monastery under its Holy Protection. Saint Gerasimos died on the 15th of August same day with that of the assumption of his beloved Virgin Mary. In the last moments of his life on earth, by his side were according to tradition Father Ioannikios, Father Germanos and the Abbess Laurentia. The priests dressed the Saint in the vestments that he has even today and after a devoting night they buried the body of Saint Gerasimos by the southern wall of the temple. The first removal of relics of Saint Gerasimos took place 2 years and 2 months after his death on the 20th of October 1581. The Venetians, annoyed by the imperishability of the body ordered the body to be buried again until completion of three years. The second removal of relics took place six months after with the same results.

For this reason the name-day celebration of the Saint that was enacted, was that of the 20th of October and the 16th of August instead of 15th of August so as the day of the Assumption of the Virgin not to be shadowed. The nomination of the saintliness of Gerasimos was made oficial in 1622. Saint Gerasimos was named «New Ascetic» so as to be distinguished from Saint Gerasimos the Jordanian.



Sunday School Classroom Proshphoro Making Activity

Preston Athanasios Wilson & the Children

10/13/2019



*We thank Randy's Pizza Owner Elia
Nicholas for our Delicious Meal*

Dear OCF chapter leaders,

This is a reminder to please publicize the kickoff dinner that will be taking place at 6:30p at St. Barbara's on Thursday, October 24. There will be a short vesper service in the church followed by the topic being introduced in the church, followed by pizza dinner and open discussion on the topic and Q and A for the priests that are present. Please provide an RSVP count to Father Stavroforos at your earliest convenience. His Email is fatherstavroforos2012@gmail.com.

In Christ's Service,

Achilles D.
OCF North Carolina District Student Leader