

Epistle Reading
St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 4:4-7



BRETHREN, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

Gospel Reading
The Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12



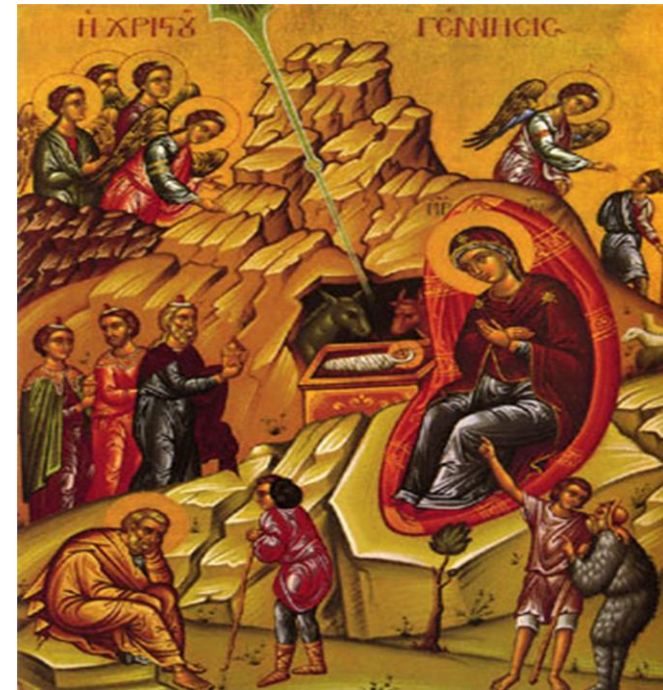
Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake
www.gocslc.org; Orthodoxy3@gmail.com

Sunday, December 25th, 2016
The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ



Please contact Father Elias 801-556-4640 for visits and any Spiritual needs
Reverend Father George Politis (retired)

Holy Trinity Cathedral: 279 S. 300 W. SLC, UT 84101, (801) 328-9681
Prophet Elias Church: 5335 Highland Dr. Holladay, UT 84117, (801) 277-2693

Sunday Service for Christmas

December 25th, 2016
Holy Trinity (only)

The Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Luke
(Holy Communion)

January 1st, 2017
Holy Trinity (only)

Circumcision of our Lord/Saint Basil the Great
Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias

****SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES****

Dear Beloved Faithful,

Please take note of our Holy Nativity Services to be celebrated this year. With Christmas Day and our Lord's Holy Nativity on Sunday the schedule will be different from the past since we cannot celebrate a Divine Liturgy on Saturday evening.

Special Designation on these services.

Fri. Dec. 23rd 9:00am PE Fr. Elias Celebrant. The Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ - Orthros followed by Royal Hours. **No Divine Liturgy and No Holy Communion**

Sat. Dec. 24th 9:00am PE Fr. Elias Celebrant. Orthros & Divine Liturgy (Holy Communion) before the Nativity of Christ & Feast of the Venerable Martyr Evgenia

Sat. Dec. 24th 6:00pm PE Fr. Elias Celebrant. Great Vespers Nativity of Christ (No Holy Communion)

Weekday Services

Tuesday,

December 27th, 2016
Prophet Elias

Stephen Archdeacon & First Martyr
Orthros 9:00am followed by Divine Liturgy Fr. Elias

Memorials

None Scheduled

When Scheduling Memorials...Memorials must be scheduled through
Fr. Elias

For inquiries, regarding memorials please contact Fr. Elias at
801-556-4640 or freliask@yahoo.com.

Prayer List

Marcus, Heather, Sophie, Jim, Ben, Angelo, Felix, Tiana, Daniel, Brad, Georgiann, Niko, Pat, Steve, Heather, Gary, Jamie, Nick, Jimmy, Joel, Tami, Dan, Jane, Brian and Casie

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, you can do so by calling the church office at 801-328-9681

Please take note, that Fr. Elias will be enjoying the Christmas Season with his family from **December 24th to December 29th**. He will still be conducting services and available for emergencies.

Thank you

Wishing you and yours Peace and Joy throughout the Season.

The office will be closed Monday, December 26th, and January 2nd, in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day
Thank you.



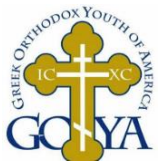
Young at Heart New Year's luncheon on Thursday January 12th. Noon in the Memorial Hall. Ring in the New Year with food, friends & fellowship, let's not forget BINGO. We hope to see you all!

XPONIA ΠΟΛΛΑ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΛΗ ΧΡΟΝΙΑ 2017!

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER

There will be no classes are scheduled for **December 25th and January 1st**.
Sunday School will resume on **January 8th**.

We wish you all Kales Yiortes and a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH MINISTRIES



It's GAME Time!

Come support our Youth Basketball
Please see the schedule below
for dates and times

No Goya Basketball on Saturday Dec. 24th

Saturday, Jan. 7th 2017

4 th Grade Boys	OLOL SL	8:00 am
7 th Grade Boys	St. Thomas Moore	10:00 am
8 th Grade Boys	St. John	11:00 am
8 th Grade Girls	Prophet Elias	12:00 pm
Intermediate Boys	St. Vincents	9:00 am
Senior Boys	Prophet Elias	1:00 pm

Thank You

We would like to thank the entire community and the Parish Council for supporting our annual Sunday School Christmas Program including our Greek School students. There were over 300 in attendance! The students did an awesome job! Thank you to everyone that made this program a success. We wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Paul, Denise Eleni & Mary

SAVE THE DATE

St. John Chrysostom 2017 Oratorical Festival

Jr. & Sr. Division February 5, 2017

Elementary Division February 12, 2017

Details to follow

Annual Goya Apokreas Party

February 25, 2017



Stewardship Ministry in Motion

December 16, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With Christmas, almost upon us, we at The Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake are truly thankful for you and your family as part of our Church. You are a vital part of our Church Community.

Please take a few minutes to review your 2016 Stewardship Commitment in support of our Parish Ministries.

Kindly consider this reminder during this season of joy and good will. Please complete your Stewardship Commitment for 2016 and ensure the success of the programs undertaken for the spiritual needs of the families entrusted to our care. Remember that your Stewardship provides the foundation for our Parish Ministries and our efforts in meeting the challenge of spreading Christ's Word and our Orthodox Faith.

Stewardship is an opportunity to examine our priorities and values, to express our thankfulness, to give of ourselves and to grow in grace. It allows us to participate in the work of God. Giving is not a substitute for commitment – it is an expression of our commitment.

May the grace of our Lord bless you and your loved ones to experience the joy of Christ's Birth through the joy of giving.

Yours in Christ,

Stewardship Committee



Attention All College Students

\$250,000 in Scholarships Will Be Awarded

Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation

2016 / 2017 Application Now Available

Application Deadline: Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Apply Today: www.panhellenicsf.org

Any questions call or email Fr. Elias 801-556-4640 freliask@yahoo.com

Saint Sophia School Position Available

Saint Sophia School is seeking a Pre-K- Kindergarten Director/Principal for the 2017-2018 school years. Qualifications include dynamic, creative, excellent communication, technology and social networking skills, non-profit experience & budget skills preferred 5 + yrs. Admin. Experience or master's pref. & current credentials; send cover letter, resume, list of references, via email to ebapis@comcast.net or vfolias@hotmail.com Saint Sophia School is an equal opportunity employer for all qualified applicants.

Outreach for Young at Heart Luncheon

Dear Parishioners,

We would like to start an outreach for our Young at Heart attendees whom need transportation. Our Senior Citizens live south of the valley up to Layton who has not been able to attend. Please let me know by the 2nd Thursday of each month if you could drive a Senior Citizen and enjoy lunch with them. We can assign by locale, so let me know what area you can help with.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the luncheons. God Bless.
+fr. Elias

Parishioners, if you know anyone in need of furnishings: sofa, end tables, TV cabinet or stand, area and throw rugs, please call Fr. Elias 801-556-4640 or email freliask@yahoo.com

Pan Orthodox Outdoor Blessing of the Waters

Friday, January 6, 2017 4:00pm at Sugar House Park

Food and Fellowship immediately after in the Social hall at Prophet Elias. (Pizza and Drinks)

Come Let us gather and celebrate this Great Feast Day of our Lord

Please call 801-556-4640 for any questions

+Rev. Fr. Elias Koucos

PARENTING INFORMATION AND ADVICE TO HELP NAVIGATE THE DIGITAL ARENA

When should our children have a cell, phone is a decision we face and presents some challenges and concerns we need to be aware of. Most of our children now have a cell phone so there are things we need to be aware of as well. We want our children to be safe and cell phones provide that assurance for us. Our children want and use the phones for games and social communication, but they also have a portable computer and mobile internet capability with the phone technology available today. **We will be having a Parish Family Night on Sunday, January 29, 2017 at Prophet Elias.** Save the date and enjoy an evening of dinner, and information to help us not only keep our children safe but discuss issues of privacy, inappropriate texts/photos and safety. Open to families and children ages 3 to 18 years of age. Plan to attend and develop a strategy to navigate the digital world with your family. Any thoughts or concerns please call Fr. Elias at 801-556-4640

Return Engagement

By Popular Demand

Community Event AHEPA Scholarship Fundraiser

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Dinner Show and Dancing

Featuring the Fabulous

Synthesis Bouzouki Band and

Recording Star Aphrodite Vlasserou

More information to follow or call

Jim Klekas at **801-971-6060**



May the Blessing of the Season

last though out the year!

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

Καλά Χριστούγεννα και Ευτυχές το Νέον Έτος



FAITH Endowment Announces Summer 2017 FAITH Travel Grants to Ionian Village

For the tenth consecutive year, *FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism* will award full and partial financial aid travel grants to qualifying campers participating in the 2017 Ionian Village summer camp program. “FAITH Travel Grants to Ionian Village” are primarily need-based financial aid awards; however, each applicant’s academic performance will also be weighed into the evaluation review process.

Each year, Ionian Village participants travel across Greece and visit significant sites of Greek history, culture and the Greek Orthodox faith. At the end of each program, the campers return home with strengthened faith, lifelong friendships and an expanded appreciation for the Greek Orthodox Church and Hellenic culture.

Mrs. Elaine Jaharis, a Founder of the FAITH Endowment, Ionian Village Alumna and Chair of the Committee spoke on behalf of the Founders of FAITH, “We are sincerely pleased to offer this transformative and spiritually enriching experience to young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to connect to their Hellenic roots and Orthodox faith.”

The application is now available at thefaithendowment.org/travelgrant for participants of Session One and Session Two, ages 15-18. Completed applications must be received in the mail by the February 3, 2017 deadline. Full applicant criteria can be found at the link above. Applicants are encouraged to follow FAITH on Facebook ([facebook.com/faithendowment](https://www.facebook.com/faithendowment)) for program updates and award notification timelines. Priority is given to high school seniors.

In 2016, FAITH awarded 45 FAITH Travel Grants to Ionian Village to young people from all metropolises across the United States who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to travel to Greece.

“FAITH supplied me with the grant that made the dream of Ionian Village attainable for me. I am so thankful to have received such a blessing. Because of FAITH’s generosity, I was able to experience miracles, touch saints and make the best connections with my Greek Orthodox peers,” said Anna from Illinois, a 2016 FAITH Travel Grant to Ionian Village recipient.

In addition to underwriting financial aid travel grants, FAITH sponsors the “FAITH Scholarships for Academic Excellence” program each year. This competitive merit-based scholarship series awards college scholarships to high school seniors ranked within the top of their graduating class. For more information about this and other programs, visit thefaithendowment.org.

FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism supports the development of innovative educational, cultural, and scholarship programs for young people that promote an understanding of the Orthodox faith, Hellenism, and the relationship of the two to America’s history and multicultural landscape. For more information, please call 212-644-6940 or email info@thefaithendowment.org.