

Epistle Reading

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9



BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What

you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Reading

The Gospel of John 12:1-18



Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the

poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So, the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So, they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard.



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

Sunday, April 9th, 2017
PALM SUNDAY



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

HOLY WEEK



SCHEDULE

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS

APRIL 8

Holy Trinity	Orthros 9:00 am/Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Orthros 9:00 am/Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	Fr. Elias

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 9

Holy Trinity	Orthros 9:00 am/Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Orthros 9:00 am/Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	Fr. Elias

Holy Trinity	Service of the Bridegroom	7:00 pm	Fr. Elias
Prophet Elias	Service of the Bridegroom	7:00 pm	Fr. Luke

HOLY MONDAY

APRIL 10

Holy Trinity	Service of the Bridegroom	7:00 pm	Fr. Elias
Prophet Elias	Service of the Bridegroom	7:00 pm	Fr. Luke

HOLY TUESDAY

APRIL 11

Holy Trinity	Service of the Bridegroom Hymn of Kassiani	7:00 pm	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Service of the Bridegroom Hymn of Kassiani	7:00 pm	Fr. Elias

HOLY WEDNESDAY

APRIL 12

Holy Trinity Only	Presanctified Divine Liturgy	9:00 am	Fr. Elias/Fr. Luke
Holy Trinity	Mystery Holy Unction	3:00 pm	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Mystery Holy Unction	3:00 pm	Fr. Elias
Holy Trinity	Mystical Supper Matins	7:00 pm	Fr. Elias
Prophet Elias	Mystical Supper Matins	7:00 pm	Fr. Luke

HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 13

Holy Trinity	Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil	9:00 am	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil	9:00 am	Fr. Elias

Holy Trinity	Crucifixion Matins 12 Gospels	6:00 pm	Fr. Luke
Prophet Elias	Crucifixion Matins 12 Gospels	6:00 pm	Fr. Elias

HOLY FRIDAY

APRIL 14

Prophet Elias (only)	Royal Hours	9:00 am	Fr. Elias/Fr. Luke
Holy Trinity	Apokathelosis (Descent from the Cross) Vespers	3:00 pm	Fr. Luke

Prophet Elias	Apokathelosis (Descent from the Cross) Vespers	3:00 pm	Fr. Elias
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Holy Trinity	Lamentations Matins Procession with the Kouvouklion	7:00 pm	Fr. Elias
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Prophet Elias	Lamentations Matins Procession with the Kouvouklion	7:00 pm	Fr. Luke
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HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 15

Holy Trinity	Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil	9:00 am	Fr. Elias
Prophet Elias	Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil	9:00 am	Fr. Luke

Holy Trinity	Vigil, Matins and Divine Liturgy Resurrection	11:00 pm	Fr. Luke
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Prophet Elias	Vigil, Matins and Divine Liturgy Resurrection	11:00 pm	Fr. Elias
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GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

APRIL 16

Prophet Elias Only	Agape Vespers	11:00 am	Fr. Elias/Fr. Luke
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SUNDAY SERVICES

April 23rd, 2017

Holy Trinity
Prophet Elias

Thomas Sunday

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias
Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Luke

April 30th, 2017

Holy Trinity
Prophet Elias

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Luke
Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias

Weekday Services

Friday

April 21st, 2017

Prophet Elias

Theotokos of the Life-giving Spring

Orthros 9:00am/Divine Liturgy 10:00am Fr. Elias

Memorials

April 30th, 2017

Vern Loveless	40 Days	Holy Trinity
Jean Velis	6 Months	Holy Trinity
Maggie Joyce Beck Anast	4 Years	Holy Trinity
George Arnold Anast	5 Years	Holy Trinity
Jon Richard Anast	5 Years	Holy Trinity
Chris Anast	7 Years	Holy Trinity
Spiro Sam Babalis	20 Years	Holy Trinity
Jeffrey Chris Anast	21 Years	Holy Trinity
George Anast	31 Years	Holy Trinity
Betty Anast	40 Years	Holy Trinity
Mary Ditmer Pharmakis Mazzai	51 Years	Holy Trinity
Konstantina Anastopoulos	54 Years	Holy Trinity
Christine Pharmakis Anast Georgakis	70 Years	Holy Trinity
Peter Angelo Georgakis	70 Years	Holy Trinity
Peter D. Pharmakis	79 Years	Holy Trinity
Christ Anastopoulos	80 Years	Holy Trinity
Katina Calevas		Holy Trinity
Theodore Calevas		Holy Trinity
Helen Yetter		Holy Trinity
Paul Yetter		Holy Trinity
George Melissas	40 Days	Prophet Elias
Madelyn Bowden	1 Year	Prophet Elias
James Bowden	16 Years	Prophet Elias
<u>May 7th, 2017</u>		
Chris Tsoufakis	40 Days	Holy Trinity

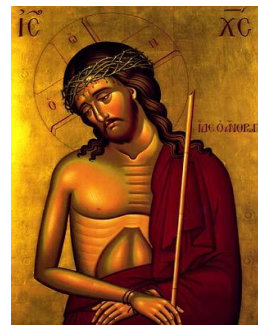
Scheduling Memorials

Please contact Fr. Elias to schedule a memorial at **801-556-4640** or
freliaask@yahoo.com

Prayer List

Bunnie, Quentin, Rosselis, Elizabeth, Anne, Cherish, Debbie, Shane, Margie, Hanna, Sebastian, Buddy, Meredith, Maria, Alice and Carol

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



DONATIONS FOR LENTEN FLOWERS

If you would like to donate towards the flowers needed during the Lenten Season to decorate the Kouvouklion and Icons, please send your donations to the church office or give at the Narthex at either church.

We are grateful for any donations.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten and Paschal Season

PALM SUNDAY ANNUAL LOUKOUMADES

Please join the Philoptochos as we will be selling delicious **LOUKOUMADES** and **KOULOOURIA** for your Easter baskets, in the Memorial Building at Holy Trinity Church this Sunday.
The Philoptochos wishes the community a Kalo Pasca and Kali Anastasi.

HOLY WEEK PREPARATIONS

Please join the community in dying your eggs at Holy Trinity (warehouse) at 10:00AM, April 13, 2017(Holy Thursday).

During this time period, we will be dying eggs for both Holy Trinity and Prophet Elias Anastasi Dinners.

Kouvouklion flower decorations will take place at both Churches at 9:00AM on Holy Friday.
Everyone is welcome and we would love to have your help and assistance.
Kali Anastasi!

Καλό Πάσχα και Καλή Ανάσταση σε όλους σας!

Our Final Week of our Lenten Journey

Today my Dear Beloved Family in Christ we stand at the threshold Holy Week. Holy Lent is behind us and today we celebrate Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week. Today we celebrate the Entry of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Like the first Palm Sunday we will symbolically acclaim Christ as King by the holding of palms in our hands. The palms will be shaped into a cross reminding us that today is the beginning of a far greater drama, the sacred passion of our Lord Jesus Christ for our salvation. Palm Sunday ushers in Holy Week and in the background of this triumphant joy stands the challenging shadow of the Cross. We will acclaim Him as King and behold Him as the Crucified One. We will now follow Christ during the coming days of His passion and to His glorious Resurrection.

My Dear Beloved family we live in a world where our governments have renounced God and have made it difficult for us to pray in public or to mention God in public. There is the perception given that there is no place for God's love, joy or light in our world. But on this one day of the year we stand in our Orthodox Churches and in all Christian Churches raising our palm branches and hearing the thunder of that royal cheer of Hosanna. We proclaim not only to ourselves but to the world Christ's Kingdom lives and has not perished. It has not disappeared from the face of the earth. This joy of our faith is something no one can take from us. We will continue to follow Christ on this triumphant victory of Palm Sunday to what now follows. Christ also begins His descent to suffering and death, but the torch that is lit today will illumine the darkness and bring us to the inexpressible joy of the Resurrection. Holy Week is the most important week of the year because it brings us to the gates of God's Kingdom. We are called to become a part of the sacred drama of Christ's death and resurrection, to share His sufferings, to help Him carry the Cross, to witness the crucifix in, to die with Him, to follow Him to His burial, and to be lifted up to the life of newness with His Resurrection. So let us continue in our faith and love of God and share this supreme gift of love our Lord gives. Kalo Pascha!

In His love and grace,
+fr. Elias

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Tsoureki--Easter Bread Sale **Saturday April 8** (after Saturday of Lazarus Services) & **Sunday April 9** at Holy Trinity & Prophet Elias \$10.00 each
Koulouria on sale at Prophet Elias only \$6.00 a dozen
Proceeds benefit DOP Philanthropic Charities

Parish Council Corner

Kalo Pascha! May you and your families have a blessed Lenten season. We hope to see you during Holy Week Services and that you will join us for dinner at both churches to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord following services Saturday evening. Donations are appreciated for flowers, incense, palms, candles and other items required for Holy Week. Donations can be made in the narthex of either church or sent to the church office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

We would also like to thank Mr. Deno Kambouris and the Charities Committee for selecting the charities in our local community as recipients of the proceeds from the 2016 Greek Festival. Letters and checks for \$1,250 from the Greek Orthodox Community of Greater Salt Lake were sent to the following non-profit organizations.

4th Street Clinic	Rescue Mission	The Road Home
SPLORE	The Inn Between	Maliheh Free Clinic
NAMI	YWCA	Intl. Rescue Committee
The Children's Center	St. Vincent DePaul	Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Work on the PE pavilion is continuing. We are pursuing several possibilities to include the build out of a kitchen and a shift in the placement of the restrooms. More near term, we are nearing completion of the bid phase and will move to placement and installation of a motorized awning across the west end to provide shade to the eating area. Lighting will also be installed as part of this phase of the project.

Separate from the pavilion, we are also looking to repair the asphalt surfaces at PE, and getting protective plexiglass installed on the dome window exteriors.

Anastasi Dinner

Please plan to attend a delicious dinner with your fellow parishioners in celebration of the Resurrection, immediately following the **Saturday, Anastasi Services** at both churches. The Parish Council will be serving the community favorite lamb dinner. This will be a wonderful opportunity to share the joy of Pascha! We look forward to seeing you all there after services.

Benevolence Fund

Benevolence Fund and Charitable Ministry of The Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake

If you would like to donate, please make your donations payable to the Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake Benevolence Fund. Mail or bring to the Holy Trinity Office 279 South 300 West, SLC Ut, 84101. Funds will be administered on a case by case basis to those in need and in accordance with our Mission Statement



Community Wish List

Please find below a Wish List of items that the Community is need of. If you see a particular item you would like to donate to, please do so by giving at the Narthex of both churches, or at the church office. If you have any questions on a particular item, please call Connie at the church office 801-328-9681.

We would love to hear from you.

Holy Trinity Campus

- Computers for Office
- Hobart 20 Quart Stand Mixer
- Church and Crane Parking Lot Paving Repairs/Resurface
- Ornamental Fencing around the Cathedral Perimeters
- Church Parking Lot Lighting
- 2 Pallets of Landscaping Bark
- New Mixer for Cathedral Sound System
- LED's for Basement including Smart Light Technology in the Cathedral

Prophet Elias Campus

- Pavilion Project
- Large Gym Floor Refinishing
- Large Gym Interior Painting
- Replace Four Waterless Auto Flush Urinals
- Parking Lot Lighting
- Parking Lot Repairs/Resurface
- Plexiglass to Protect Dome Stained Glass Windows
- Remodel Brides Room
- Replacement of two Skylights
- LED Lighting and Smart Switch Technology for Entire Campus

- Operation Brown Bag
- Sunday School Graduation Orthodox Study Bibles for Graduates (15)

We thank you for your continued support of our Community.

Σας ευχόμαστε
ΚΑΛΗ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΗ



The Parish Council and the Clergy
Wish you and your families, Kali Anastasi!

Operation Brown Bag
Community Outreach Event
Saturday, April 29th

We are asking that you please help donate to this most worthwhile endeavor that we have taken on. The need in the community is immense. We will be preparing 3,050 Brown Bag lunches for distribution. We ask that you please offer any assistance to this project, be it your time and talent in preparation, or a monetary donation.

Please make plans to join us for our Spring Community Outreach Event on Saturday, April 29th at the Hellenic Cultural Center. We are looking forward to once again feeding those in need and fulfilling a critical need in our community. In addition to organizing, staffing and overseeing the event, the Parish Council will be providing a complimentary breakfast for volunteers. Following breakfast, volunteers will be making sandwiches and assembling brown bag lunches to be delivered to various downtown service providers for the homeless and hungry.

This is a great service opportunity for parishioners and their families to come together and work side-by-side in an effort to help those who are less fortunate. Remember, Yiayia always said, "**many hands makes light work!**"

Please sign up in the narthex, or by calling the church office at 801-328-9681 or by email at orthodoxy3@gmail.com.



Sunday School Update:

We hope everyone is well
We wanted to touch base regarding the
upcoming Sunday School Events
April through end of May
There are only 6 Sunday School Classes left,
the year has flown by!

April:

- **Palm Sunday, April 9:** There is Sunday School Class today. The kids will come to class and after communion, the priests will make sure the kids get their palms
- **April 16 Pascha/Easter, NO Sunday School**
- **April 23 and April 30 Regular Sunday School Class**

May:

- **May 7 Regular Class**
- **May 7 12th Grade Evening Graduation Dinner**
More details to follow.
- **May 14 Regular Day of Sunday School**
- **May 21 LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL**
Sunday School Promotion/ Certificates and Yearbooks distributed.

We wish you all a blessed Pascha!

Any questions, please feel free to contact any of us:

Paul K. 801-870-1514 paulk2p@aol.com
Denise N. 801-604-6782 deninik63@gmail.com
Elenie S. 801-718-7515
elenie@merrickbank.com or eleniesefandonakis@yahoo.com

FIGHT HUNGER IN THE CITY
with Operation Brown Bag



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF GREATER SALT LAKE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
SERVICE PROJECT

APRIL 29, 2017 • 9AM

Hellenic Cultural Center
279 South 300 West

Come enjoy a delicious
breakfast followed by meal
assembly and delivering
Brown Bag Meals to the
hungry in our City.

To volunteer please RSVP by calling the church office at 801-328-9681 or email to orthodoxy3@gmail.com.



Mark your Calendars!
 OPA CAMP Week of June 19th
 VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL
 Week of July 17th
 More details to follow



2017

Two Sessions held at

Hellenic College Holy Cross (Brookline, MA)

- June Session: June 17 - June 27, 2017
- July Session: July 5 - July 15, 2017

Apply Online!

- Website: www.crossroadinstitute.org
- Phone: 617-850-1310

Camp Emmanuel 2017



Senior Session: June 11-17, 2017 (Ages 15-18)

Junior Session: June 18-24, 2017 (Ages 11-14)

Online Camper Registration and payment must be completed by 11:59 p.m. MDT, on **April 30, 2017**. The Youth Essay, Medical Form, Insurance Information, and Agreement and Waiver must be received by May 10 at the Metropolis Office in order for the registration to be complete. Unfortunately, we cannot accept new registrations after **April 30, 2017**, under any circumstances.

Please see link below for more information

<http://youth.denver.goarch.org/events/2017-events/2017-camp-emmanuel-home/>



The Young at Heart Easter luncheon will be on **Thursday April 20th** at noon in the Hellenic Memorial Hall. Come and enjoy some fun, fellowship & food. Desserts are always welcomed and appreciated.



WENDOVER TRIP

The **Young at Heart** will be going to beautiful Wendover, Nevada on Saturday **April 29th**. Leave from **Prophet Elias at 8:30 am** and **Holy Trinity at 9:00 am**. Departing from Wendover at **5:00 pm**. Cost is \$17.00 per person and you get \$7.00 back with a delicious all you can eat BUFFET. RSVP to Bill Kandas 801-272-1906 or Bill Rekouniotis 801-673-0424. Join us for some spring fun in Wendover!

SAVE THE DATE

Daughters of Minos
Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show
Saturday, May 13, 2017
Little America Hotel 11:00 a.m.

Please join the Daughters of Minos for their Annual Mother's Day Luncheon and Fashion Show (Four and Twenty Sailors) **Adults \$45 Children \$17**. Prepaid reservations will be taken beginning this Sunday, April 9th at Prophet Elias and Holy Trinity.

For more information or to make reservations, please contact:

Eleni Maroudas 801-949-5868 or Jennifer Klonizos 801-230-8124

We look forward to seeing everyone at this beautiful Mother's Day event!

DAUGHTERS OF MINOS SCHOLARSHIP

Apply Now

The Daughters of Minos sponsors scholarships at the University of Utah, Salt Lake Community College and Westminster College. Please encourage high school seniors or college students who are interested in applying for scholarships starting fall semester. Contact these institutions now-application deadlines are only weeks away.

University of Utah
801-585-5647

Salt Lake Community College
801-957-4247

Westminster College
801 832-2502

For questions contact Kathy Para at nkgpara@msn.com

PAN ARCADIAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Western District Arcadian Scholarship application is available from Karen Anastasopoulos karenanast@gmail.com or 801-913-2414. An applicant may be a member of a PFA chapter (Salt Lake City Theodoros Kolokotronis Chapter #90), a child of a member OR a grandchild of a member. Deadline is **May 15, 2017**. Contact Karen with any questions.

SPRING 2017 PARISH ASSEMBLY May 21, 2017

Prophet Elias Church
Notice and Agenda we will be mailed out.

FLYERS

In order to maintain consistency and proper communication with parishioners, all flyers and notifications posted in or about the Churches and accompanying buildings need to receive prior approval from the Church office.

Thank you for your cooperation

SAINT SOPHIA SCHOOL
MAY 6TH, 2017 at 8:00 am

GO THE DISTANCE! 5K RACE & FUN RUN PROMOTING THE PHILOSOPHY OF SOUND BODY & SOUND MIND AT THE SAINT SOPHIA SCHOOL

Located at: 5314 South Highland Drive, Holladay, UT 84117

Walk, run or push stroller along the quiet pastoral tree-lined streets surrounding the Saint Sophia School neighborhood.

Cross the finish line and enjoy the festivities, music, drinks and prizes!

PLEASE NO DOGS OR BIKES ALLOWED

Sign up today!

Online registration only

Active.com Search: Saint Sophia School

Packet Pick Up

May 4 & 5 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
at the School Office

All Children under 13 must be accompanied by an Adult

For more information please contact the school office
801-424-1297



AHEPA/DOP Convention Golf Tournament

AHEPA and DOP are hosting the 82nd Rocky Mountain Convention **June 8-11** here in SLC. Please come and join us in our Scholarship Fundraiser June 9 at Bonneville Golf Course Open to everyone. Even if you can't play, please consider sponsoring a hole.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Additional golfers:

#2 _____ Email _____

#3 _____ Email _____

#4 _____ Email _____

Please select from the following:

- Single Player \$125.00
 - Hole/Tee Sponsor \$200.00
 - Single Player & Hole/Tee Sponsor \$325.00
 - Team of Four Players \$500.00
 - Team of Four & Hole/Tee Sponsor \$700.00
 - Other Donation \$ _____
- Total \$ _____

Register by mailing form and check to:
AHEPA 146, 3273 E Danforth Drive, SLC, UT 84121
For any questions please call Chris Floor 801-450-2105 or
email: cfloor7456@msn.com

SAINT SOPHIA SCHOOL

**NOW ENROLLING FOR
FALL OF 2017**



TODDLER FRIDAYS

8:50-11:00 AM

At Saint Sophia School
801.424.1297

Following the ideal of sound mind in a sound body
(Ένα υγιές μυαλό σε ένα υγιές σώμα)
for 20 years!

Parent/Child Toddler Class Helps children in the early years to:

- Develop small and large motor skills through new activities
- Acclimate to "school"
- Gain awareness of the concepts of community and responsible group behavior
- Provide parents with new ideas about the role of observing while helping children to enjoy a successful learning experience
- Discover Greek language and Culture, and the overall importance of "a sound mind in a sound body."

We offer affordable tuition, and most importantly, we uphold a strong tradition of excellence in education.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!



On behalf of the parents and the community we would like to thank the coaches of our Goya Basketball program. The teams had a great season and the players had fun! Our coaches have put in numerous hours of coaching and mentoring our Goyans. We want you to know how much we appreciate you! Thank you to the following Coaches for dedicating their time and talents! We look forward to another successful year!

4th Grade Boys-Pete Sefakis & Mike Zervos

7th Grade Boys-Fotis Saltaris

8th Grade Girls-Megan Curtice

8th Grade Boys-Nick Nikols & Jim Klekas

Intermediate Boys (9th & 10th)-Aaron Zoumadakis & Bill Zoumadakis

Senior Boys-Mike Katsanevas & Pete Saltas

In His Service,
Denise Nikols, Youth Coordinator

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!



A huge **Efharisto** to everyone for the incredible support of the OPA Greek Dancers BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER these past two Sundays at Holy Trinity and Prophet Elias!

We are very excited to represent our church family as we perform in Disneyland this July, and your generous donations will assist us with our travel and lodging expenses.

We appreciate your kindness more than you know!!!

With sincere love and gratitude,
The OPA Greek Dancers, Instructors and Parents

2017 Scholarship Applications

Applications for scholarships administered by the Office of the Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America are available for awards to be made for the 2017-2018 academic year. Click on the links below to download and print the scholarships instructions and applications.

<http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/administration/chancellor/2017>

The deadline for submitting an application is **May 1, 2017**. Please contact Fr. Elias if you need any assistance in the application process.



Why We Dye Eggs Red for Pascha

Orthodox Christians, the egg symbolizes the empty rock tomb from which Jesus Christ arose after His Crucifixion. It is a universal means of greeting and presentation for Christian believers, while it also foretells the eternal life experience awaiting true believers after death. A symbol of fertility and

immortality among all nations and eras of the human civilization, the egg appears to be empty within, but life spreads out of it when a bird hatches from it. According to heathen cosmogonies, the original chaos of the world was contained in an egg, which broke into two halves, the one forming the sky and the other the earth. Red is the color of life and victory. The custom of the Easter egg originated amongst the early Christians of Mesopotamia, who stained eggs red in memory of the precious blood of Christ, which was on the cross for the salvation of all men.

The Christian Church officially adopted the custom, regarding the red eggs as a symbol of the resurrection. Most stories link Mary Magdalene to the red Easter eggs custom, or other female figures. Per Reverend Peter G. Kohanik's book, "The Most Useful Knowledge for the Orthodox Russian-American Young People," there exists a tradition which makes Mary Magdalene out to be the originator of the custom of using red eggs on Easter day. Magdalene went to Rome to preach the Gospel and appearing before the Emperor Tiberius, offered him a red egg, saying: CHRIST IS RISEN." Tiberius, who was skeptical over the woman's sayings, told Magdalene that if she was telling the truth, then his egg would turn red. At that point, the egg had turned blood red, and so began her preaching.

Learning of this offering by Mary Magdalene, the early Christians imitated her, presenting each other with eggs. Hence, eggs began to be used by Christians in the earliest centuries as a symbol of the Resurrection of Christ and of the regeneration of Christians for a new and a better life along with it. The Russian monastery of Mary Magdalene in Jerusalem has a big fresco depicting her presenting the Roman Emperor with a red egg.

A second story has it that Virgin Mary offered the Roman soldiers guarding her Son a basket full of eggs so that they would treat him well. While she was pleading for him, her tears fell on the eggs and they turned red. A variation of the story has it that an unknown woman, who wouldn't believe the news of Christ's resurrection, said that she would believe it only when the eggs she had been holding turned red; miraculously, the eggs changed as soon as she spoke the words. - See more at:

<http://greece.greekreporter.com/2012/04/13/why-we-dye-eggs-red-at-easter>