



OCTOBER 2021 - NOVEMBER 2021

THE GOOD NEWS

A Monthly Publication of Saint Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church

In and through Jesus Christ and His Holy Orthodox Church,
Our mission is to cultivate spiritual growth that transforms lives and leads to salvation.

**The Parish Family of Saint Sophia
wishes you and your family**

**A VERY HAPPY
AND BLESSED THANKSGIVING!**



Saint Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church

200 Hempstead Street, New London, CT 06320

Phone: 860-442-2377

Fax: 860-442-1020

Email: office@saintsophianl.org

Website: saintsophianl.org

Facebook: Saint Sophia Church

A Parish of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston

Rev. Presbyter, Peter Kostakis, Presiding Priest

Email: pkostakis@saintsophianl.org

In and through Jesus Christ and His Holy Orthodox Church, the mission of our parish is to cultivate spiritual growth that transforms lives and leads to salvation.

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Michael Podeszwa, Vice President

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Youth Advisor:	Shawn Hathaway
Hellenic Dancers:	Stephanie Bonewicz Sophia Anastasiou
Monthly Social Lunch:	Nancy Bellos, President

About "The Good News"

The Good News is the monthly publication of St. Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church. The editor of *The Good News* works closely with the office staff and volunteers to select and publish the best, most suitable, and timeliest information submitted by ministry team leaders and parishioners. While we greatly value the input of all ministry leaders and parishioners, final editorial decisions are made by the presiding priest together with *The Good News* in-house editorial and production staff. We do invite and encourage parishioners to submit material; however, this does not guarantee its publication. In addition, the newsletter's editorial staff reserves the right to retract, redact, or withhold material at any point in the submission process if there are any concerns with its content. **The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.** Please submit all written items in Microsoft Word format via email.

The Good News Sponsor

Myrtle Johnson

In Loving Memory her Aunts

Bessie McCary

Lucille Pantellis

Catherine Catogas

May Their Memory be Eternal

Monthly Good News Sponsorship Form

Yes, I would like to sponsor an issue of *The Good News*

Name: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Other: _____

Donation: \$50

Please make check payable to "St. Sophia Church"

How can I find joy in the Church services?

November's greatest Holy Day is the 21st of the month, that is, the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple. On major feast days of the Theotokos, the Holy Gospel reading is about Martha and Mary and their relationship to Christ.

Martha, Martha you are anxious and troubled about many things, one thing is needful and Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her.

Now, Martha and Mary are both saints in the Church. In this particular instance, Martha was caught up with a lot of serving and preparations to serve the Lord. Mary sat with the Lord, and when Martha asked the Lord to tell Mary to help her, the Lord told Martha that Mary had chosen the better portion. Martha may have known that in the first place, causing her to urge the Lord to send Mary to help her as well, but the Lord did invite Martha to sit at His feet as well!

Church life involves a lot of serving. In fact, the word 'deacon' has the same root as the Greek word for the serving that Martha did -- *diakonia*! A lot of us who have a very active role in the services themselves -- clergy, acolytes, parish council, parents with small children -- may sometimes feel that we miss out in the liturgy because of how active we are with our *diakonia* during the services.

I believe this should be helpful: The Church is to transform the world. The Lord himself said "no one has ascended into heaven except him who descended from heaven." So Christ has gone up having only descended first! None of us have come down from Heaven! God came down from Heaven and has met us on the earth. If we expect an *emotional* experience from church to *feel spiritual* then that does harm to our understanding of worship. Many do not go to church and claim that they do not *feel anything* when they are there. Spiritual life is much more than feelings. Feelings are not bad, but we must never go to church and think that, because we didn't feel the way we wanted to, we came away with nothing! What are we saying about God when we say that? We know that God blesses our works and meets us where we are first, before we can ascend with Him. Also, when we meditate on the fact that all the work that we do for God *is* prayer, the Lord can direct our thoughts and intentions, and we can serve with less irritability and more hope!

Just because the Lord said that the better portion is to sit at his feet, that does not mean that nobody should ever serve anywhere! Didn't Christ instruct the disciples how to prepare the supper? Didn't He himself wash the disciples' feet? We prepare as much as we can so we can sit at the Lord's feet, but even those doing the serving should feel that they do so at the Lord's feet. We should ask the Lord to help us to find the right understanding of worship and serving. When serving is serving Christ, it cannot be understood as a distraction from worship. Don't forget that the clergy and the Levi refused to serve the beaten man because ministering to him would have made them ritually unclean.

So we can be extreme and forget to love with the pretense of being Mary but ignoring our fellow man for the sake of a personal, individualistic religious experience. But Saint Cyril, in his homily on Luke, did not consider Mary inhospitable or lazy; she was doing actual work by listening to the Lord's teachings.

Pastoral Message – Page 1b

Another way Martha and Mary's situation appears in church life is that sometimes the church activities are so intensely numerous that we can be tempted to think the services get in the way! The very center of our life as a parish and as human beings can be seen as secondary because we can get burned out with so many activities. Our calendar can become so cluttered with wonderful activities that we can be at risk of cutting out church services to save time. The fellowship and the community works and the education and the activities are all wholesome and dedicated to serving God, but if they are not treated as extensions of the Divine Liturgy, they will not receive the life, and we will not receive the benefits. If we want to do stewardship, activities, education, fellowship, and community service right, we have to have to love the Divine Liturgy. Both Martha and Mary were doing noble things, but all service needs direction and life from God. Likewise, all of our labors, all of our activities, all of our fellowship are to be honorable. They must be Christ-centered. At the feet of the Lord is the only way our serving makes any sense. So labor has its time, and liturgy has its time: It is reasonable to get a little tired during liturgy because of our liturgy-specific work of listening, helping, praying, etc.; it is not reasonable to schedule a church activity, however holy it is, at the same time as the church services.

A community that prays and eats together in the Lord's Mystical Supper stays together! How can we allow God to increase our fervor for the service? Let us give our whole selves to God, doing the work of listening to the Lord's teaching, responding to his loving pursuit of us by giving and sacrificing for one another.

As we honor the Most Holy Lady, who became herself the most hallowed temple of God, we remember that we are also called to be temples of the Holy Spirit. We bring ourselves to the temple or ask for sacramental visits to be able to partake of the sanctification of soul and body that comes only from God.

Many years to all.

Love in Christ,

Fr. Peter

ST. SOPHIA GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL



NOVEMBER 4TH
TAKE OUT ONLY
DETAILS TO FOLLOW



Parish Council News

October 2021

Γεια σας! Hello!

This Fall has marked new beginnings and restarts for St. Sophia. Our prayers were answered, and we are blessed with a new priest.

Fr. Peter, Presvytera Athanasia, Emmanuel, and Eleftherios joined our Parish in September. I was very touched that his parents, uncle, and godparents came to worship with us on his first Sunday here.

From the moment Fr. Peter arrived at our church, he has focused on making sure that this will be an easy transition, and that all the needs of the Parish will be met. His first Sundays were busy with Churchings, a Wedding, and a Baptism.

We restarted our coffee hours. First, outside on August 15th, and slowly we moved inside, always ensuring we take every precaution possible to keep everyone safe. Sunday school also started mid-September with the help of our great teachers and parents.

On October 17th, we are planning a Ministry Fair right after the liturgy. Our ministries will showcase their work. It will be an excellent opportunity for all to see what every Ministry is working on and maybe find a new interest in one of them and decide to join. Hint: I think one of them will be offering koulourakia and kourmbiethes!

We are also busy preparing for a modified Festival that will take place in November. We hope that with God's Grace, in the near future, we will be able to have a Festival as we used to.

We are always looking for volunteers, so if you have some free time, please come down and help! Any help will be greatly appreciated. We are only able to do everything that needs to be done with your help and support, and we are grateful for that.

We would like again to welcome Fr. Peter and his Family to our church.

Axios Fr. Peter!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Have a Happy and Blessed Fall! Καλό και Ευλογημένο Φθινόπωρο σε όλους!

Ménia ~ Menia

melpomeni@sbcglobal.net

Monthly *Good News* Sponsorship Form

Yes, I would like to sponsor an issue of *The Good News*

Name: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Other: _____

Donation: **\$50**

Please make check payable to "St. Sophia Church"

**PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAM
IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS**

Many thanks to all who have donated a Soup Kitchen Meal, and to all the Volunteers who prepare the meals and those that help serve the meals.

On **November 12th** we will serve the meal at the New London Soup Kitchen, 12 Montauk Ave, New London, CT. We need **6 to 8 Volunteers** at the Soup Kitchen to do the prep work, serve and clean up.

If you would like to donate a meal, help serve a meal, or have any questions,

**please contact: Irene at: (860-464-7429) or
(860-287-5966)**

Hospital Ministry

Hospital ministry is an integral part of the ministry of the Church. If you would like the priest to visit you or a family member is in the hospital, Rehabilitation Center or Adult Care Center, please contact the Church Office at 860-442-2377.

October Parish Outreach Donation

Donated By:

Eleni Mosher

for the continued

Health and Well Being of Her Family

Prayer Requests

Julie, Catherine, Demetrios, Mary, Alexandria, Nina, Olga, Mary, Jenny, Michael, George, Mary, Peter, Amos, Peter, George, Sophia, Christos and Maria, Thomas and Kiveli, Georgia, Elias, Helen, Despina, Vasilios, Alexandra, Katherine, Marina, Cindy, Athena, Michael, James and Helen.

November Parish Outreach Donation

Donated By:

Menia Mustakis

For the continued

Health and Well Being of Her Family

Παράκληση για Προσευχές

Παρακαλούμε να έχετε στις προσευχές σας τους παρακάτω αδερφούς μας.....

Τζουλι, Κατερίνα, Δημήτριο, Μαίρη, Αλεξάνδρια, Νίνα, Ολγα, Μαίρη, Τζένη, Μιχάλη, Γεώργιο, Μαίρη, Πέτρο, Άμος, Πέτρο, Γεώργιο, Σοφία, Χρήστο και Μαρία, Θωμά και Κυβέλη, Γεωργία, Ηλία, Ελένη, Δέσποινα, Βασίλειο, Αλεξάνδρα, Κατερίνα, Μαρίνα, Σίντι, Αθηνά, Μιχάλη, Τζέιμς, και Ελένη.

Wine Donation

Donated By:

Ekaterini Makakis

In Loving Memory

**Christos Vallas
and
Irene Vallas**

May Their Memory Be Eternal

October Calendar

- Sunday, 10/3 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
- Sunday, 10/10 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
- Tuesday, 10/12 Parish Council Mtg 6 pm
- Sunday, 10/17 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
One Year Memorial – Angelo Pappadopoulos
- Sunday, 10/24 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
40 day Memorial -Anatoli Pasalides
- Monday, 10/25 St. Demetrios Vespers 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, 10/26 St. Demetrios
Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am
- Sunday, 10/31 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School

November Calendar

- Sunday, 11/7 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
40 day Memorial – Clara Krotsis
Holy Archangels - Vespers 5:00 pm
- GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL**
Thursday, 11/4
PLEASE VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME!
- Sunday, 11/14 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
- Tuesday, 11/9 Parish Council Mtg 6 pm
- Sunday, 11/14 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
- Monday, 11/15 Nativity Fast Begins
- Saturday, 11/20 Vespers 5:00pm
For the Entrance of the Theotokos
- Sunday, 11/21 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
Sunday School
- Wednesday, 11/24 **Office Will Be Closed**
- Thursday, 11/25 St. Catherine
Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am
Final Day of the Entrance of the Theotokos
Happy Thanksgiving
- Sunday, 11/28 Orthros 8:30 am/Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
No Sunday School

Ημερολόγιο για τον μήνα Οκτώβριο

- Κυριακή, 3/10 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
- Κυριακή, 10/10 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
- Τρίτη, 12/10 Συνέλευση του Συμβουλίου στις 6:00 μμ
- Κυριακή, 17/10 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
Μνημόσυνο 1^{ος} έτους για τον – Angelo Pappadopoulos
- Κυριακή, 24/10 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
40ήμερο Μνημόσυνο για την -Anatoli Pasalides
- Δευτέρα, 25/10 Αγίου Δημητρίου Εσπερινός 6:00μμ
- Τρίτη, 26/10 Αγίου Δημητρίου
Όρθρος/Θεία Λειτουργία 8:30πμ
- Κυριακή, 31/10 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό

Ημερολόγιο για τον μήνα Νοέμβριο

- Κυριακή, 7/11 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
40ήμερο Μνημόσυνο για την – Clara Krotsis
Σύναξις Αρχ. Μιχαήλ, Γαβριήλ & λοιπών Αγγέλων
– Εσπερινός 5:00 pm
- ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΦΕΣΤΙΒΑΛ**
Πέμπτη, 4/11
ΧΡΕΙΑΖΟΜΑΣΤΕ ΤΗΝ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ ΣΑΣ!
- Κυριακή, 14/11 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
- Τρίτη, 9/11 Συνέλευση του Συμβουλίου στις 6:00 μμ
- Κυριακή, 14/11 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
- Δευτέρα, 15/11 Αρχή της Νηστείας των Χριστουγέννων
- Σαββάτο, 20/11 Εσπερινός 5:00 μμ
για τα Εισόδια της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου
- Κυριακή, 21/11 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Κατηχητικό
- Τετάρτη, 24/11 **Το Γραφείο θα παραμείνει κλειστό**
- Πέμπτη, 25/11 Αγ. Αικατερίνης
Όρθρος/Θεία Λειτουργία 8:00πμ
Απόδοσης των Εισοδίων της Υπεραγίας της Θεοτόκου
Καλή Ημέρα των Ευχαριστιών
- Κυριακή, 28/11 Όρθρος 8:30πμ/Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30πμ
Δεν θα έχουμε Κατηχητικό

The Good News – Page 5 a & b

We deeply appreciate all of the faithful stewards of St. Sophia Who have given 2021 Stewardship Pledges and Gifts.

Thank you very much! Because of you, the St. Sophia parish is able to offer the liturgical services, sacraments, pastoral care, ministries, education, fellowship, and cultural programs that in and through Jesus Christ and His Church, transform lives, strengthen families, and foster spiritual growth.

Steven & Beth Abate
Christos & Vassiliki Alveras
Sofia Anastasiou
William & Iranthi Anastasiou
Gus Andreopoulos
Savas & Eleni Anthopolos
Dean & Amy Antipas
Constantine Aristidou
Nikolaos Aristidou
Maria Armaos
Christos & Rena Armoutsoglou
Frederick & Stephanie Ashton
Charles Athenian
Jason & Lotus Babiana
Michael & Christine Babinski
James Baldwin
George & Yannoula Ballassi
Gregory Ballassi
JoAnn Ballassi
William & Nancy Bellos
Brian & Stephanie Bonowicz
John & Denise Boras
Marilyn Boska
William & Maria Botchis
Toula Buonocore
Irene Burrows
John & Deapina Bushman
Harry Calmar
Chris & Karen Caputo
Ron & Catherine Chester
Manolis & Susan Christodoulou
Kostas & Eleni Churis
Harry & Kathy Colonis
James & Claudette Colonis
Peter & Maria Colonis
Sharon Colonis
Nico & Katie Condulis
Athena Cone
Theodore & Cleopatra Curis
Diane Dadiskos
Paula Dart
George & Helen Dawley
Louis & Eileen Deegan
William & Pam Demiris
Anastasia Deros
Michael Deros
Stacey Deros
Demetrios & Maria Dicos
James & Karen Dimitri
John & Jeanne Fakis
David Falvey

Aleksander & Angela Filip
Petraq & Rosa Filip
Stephen & JoAnn Flynn
Athena Fokaidis & Guillaume Perret
Nikolaos & Rita Fokiadis
Elsa Galetsa
Peter & Diana Galetsa
Peter & Beth Ganacoplos
Mary Gannon
James & Dora Georgeady
Ellen Georgian
William & Katherine Georgian
Spiros & Hariklia Gialpis
Evangelos Giannopoulos
Nicole Giovianazzo
Kevin & Stephanie Goodwin
James & Joan Hapis
Win & Cathie Hapis-Ganson
Shawn & Stella Hathaway
Nicholas & Claire Hatzis
Greg & Sofiela Hoagland
Richard & Thelma Hunter
Alexandra Igoumenos
Eleni Igoumenos
Theodore & Debbie James
Myrtle Johnston
Marie Kaletsios
George & Carol Kanabis
William Kanabis
Pauline Karalis
Fr. James & Corinna Katinas
Alexia Katsiaficas & Daniel Chesney
Mary Katsiaficas
Susan Kayeum
Aristedes & Toula Kedioglou
John & Despina Kendros
Nicholas & Demi Keramides
Brian & Jennifer Kettleton
Matthew & Alaina King
Fr. Peter & Anastasia Kostakis
Dimitra Kostopoulos
Evangelos & Agathi Koukoularis
Andreas & Maria Kowal
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Clara Krotsis
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James Krotsis
John & Janis Krotsis
Victor & Themis Kudrin
Chris & Rachele Limberakis
John & Liz Louziotis

Mary Louziotis
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Dean & Marge Macris
Ted & Joann Mahahias
James & Penny Maistros
Emanuel & Irene Makiaris
John & Madeleine Makiaris
George & Judy Malavazos
George & Chrysoula Mandes
John & Artimis Mandes
George & Olga Manos
Chris & Jacqueline Manthous
Rit & Eve Manthous
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Hull & Callie Manwaring
Nathaniel & Larissa Marte
Andreas Matsas
Christos & Despina Matsas
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Christina Michon
Stephanie Mickle
Athena Missios
George & Emily Mitchell
Maria Monemvasitis
Theodore Monemvasitis
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Harry Mountzoures
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George Papatouliou
Milton & Marianthi Papatouliou
Pricilla Papatouliou
Phyllis Pappadopoulas
John & Amy Pavlakis
Randy & Mary Peteros
Demetrios & Daphne Petros
Paul & Marylou Pimentel
Christopher & Isabella Podeszwa
Michael & Kim Podeszwa
Susan Podeszwa
Constantinos & Alice Poulis
Mark & Lara Poulis
William & Marge Poulis
Sophia Poulos
Tim & Eleanor Poulos

The Good News – Page 5 a & b

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 Angeliki Provatas
 Adam & Jean Rand
 Lea Rand
 Mark & Barbara Roberts
 Patricia Sarris
 Charles Scopelitis
 Stefano & Linda Seferlis
 Rick & Marianne Semon
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 Paulette Sferrazza
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 Savas & Helen Synodi
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 George & Eleni Vourtsis
 Maria Z. Whalen
 Susan White
 Katherine Zamalis
 Chris & Lisa Zelepos
 Fofi Zelepos
 Stergios Zolotas

If you have made your stewardship pledge and/or gift for 2021, and your name does not appear on the above list, please contact the church office so that we may include you on this list.

NOTE: All Names and Figures are as of October 3, 2021

Total number of pledging households and/or donors:	205
Total dollar amount pledged and/or given:	\$ 177,163.53
Average gift per household:	\$ 864.21

Stewardship list Sept 2021Final

2021 Stewardship: A CELEBRATION OF FAITH

Stewardship is not just a noun referring to an annual giving program – it's a verb referring to a way of life. Christian stewards believe all their blessings are from God and being grateful to Him, they lovingly give back to do His work on earth.

If you haven't already done so, will you please prayerfully make your 2021 pledge of time, talent, and treasure? It is only because of the generosity of its stewards that Saint Sophia is able to provide the liturgical services, sacraments, ministries, educational programs, pastoral care, cultural events, and fellowship that build community and transform lives – now and forever.

How much should I pledge? This decision is between you and God (and your spouse if you are married). There is no such thing as "one size fits all." Each person should do the best they can, remembering the words of Saint Paul: "whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)."

2021 Stewardship: A CELEBRATION OF FAITH

My 2021 Pledge is \$ _____

My Name _____ *Orthodox? Y N Birthdate?* _____

Spouse _____ *Orthodox? Y N Birthdate?* _____

Address _____ *City* _____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____

Home Phone _____ *Cell 1* _____ *Cell 2* _____

Email _____ *Email* _____

Child _____ *Orthodox? Y N Birthdate?* _____

Child _____ *Orthodox? Y N Birthdate?* _____

Child _____ *Orthodox? Y N Birthdate?* _____

Signature _____ *Signature* _____



THE PANHELLENIC

Building a better America through Education & Hellenism

Do you or an exceptional undergraduate student you know qualify to be a PanHellenic Scholar? The 2021/2022 application is now open and accepting applications!

The Foundation will accept applications from eligible Greek American college students and will distribute \$250,000 in scholarship awards to exceptional undergraduates as follows:

- **\$200,000 (20 Awards) of \$10,000 each based on academic merit and financial need.** (\$20,000 given specifically for students studying music or arts)
- **\$50,000 (20 Awards) of \$2,500 each based solely on academic merit.**

Undergraduate students of Hellenic descent **from all fifty states** are encouraged to apply. If a student applied in a prior year, and are still in college, we encourage them to reapply. Applications should be submitted electronically as instructed by **January 31, 2022**.

To be eligible to apply for a scholarship, applicants must:

- Be US Citizens or US permanent residents.
- Be of Hellenic descent.
- Be a full-time undergraduate student at an accredited 4-year university this Fall 2021 (High school students are not eligible to apply).
- Have a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA.

For inquiries please email vpanos@panhellenicsf.org or call (312) 357-6432.

As of June 2021, the Foundation has awarded **\$3.75 million+** in scholarships to **600+** Greek American students.



ENOSIS PHILOPTOCHOS

NEWS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2021

By JoAnn Ballassi

Our College Outreach Program will take place again this year, chaired by JoAnn Ballassi. We are collecting \$5.00 gift cards to places like Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, Subway, etc. Please provide us with the names and addresses of current college students for our College Outreach Program. Make sure to contact JoAnn Ballassi at jballassi@att.net or 860-442-6853 with student's info. We don't want to forget anyone. Please provide the gift cards by November 15th.

We will have our Holiday Pastry sale. Please see the order form in this Monthly. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Penny Maistros.

The order form for the Annual Community Christmas Card is also in this Monthly. All completed forms should be mailed to JoAnn Ballassi. See details on the form.

Enosis Philoptochos is continuing with our Special Fund ministry, coordinated by Jeanne Fakis. The money contributed to this fund is used to support two mission priest through OCMC, and the meals prepared and served at the New London Meal Center, by Philoptochos members and others of the St. Sophia Family. We pass a tray on the first Sunday of every month to support these ministries.

Once again, we will be working with Care and Share of East Lyme for our Angel Tree. All tags will be for children. The Tree will be set in the lobby of the Community Center to avoid congestion in the Narthex. Thelma Hunter is chairing this event. Our Parish has always been very generous for this event.

Please contact JoAnn Ballassi if you have any questions/concerns about any items in this article. jballassi@att.net or 860-442-6853

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED NATIVITY FOOD DRIVE

This year, in the spirit of Stewardship Month, the Enosis Philoptochos is spearheading a parish– wide “Helping our Neighbors in Need” Food Drive. In conjunction with the Nativity Fast, which begins on Monday, November 15, all parishioners are invited to purchase nonperishable food items and to place them in cartons located at the front of the church hall. We will begin collecting these items on Sunday November 14, and will stop collecting them on Sunday, December 12. All items will be donated to the Gemma Moran Food Bank. The list below is to suggest the types of items needed.

If you would like to check to see what items are most needed, please contact JoAnn Ballassi at jballassi@att.net or 860-442-6583. **THANK YOU!**

The Good News – Page 7b

HOLIDAY PASTRY 2021

The Philoptochos Society of St. Sophia Church is now taking orders for Greek Pastries for the Holidays. Please order early – the last day to place your order is:

Friday, November 26, 2021

Pastries Available

1. Baklava	9x12 tray	\$38.00
Layers of phyllo & walnuts with a honey syrup		
2. Kourambiedes	1 dozen	\$16.00
Butter cookie coated with powdered sugar	4 dozen	\$55.00
3. Koulourakia	1 dozen	\$8.00
Twisted butter cookie	4 dozen	\$30.00
4. Finikia	1 dozen	\$16.00
Honey dipped walnut cookie	4 dozen	\$55.00
5. Variety Package		\$18.00
6. Spanakopita	9x12 tray	\$38.00

Pastry Order Form

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Baklava	_____ tray(s) @ \$38 each	\$ _____
Spanakopita	_____ tray(s) @ \$38 each	\$ _____
Kourambides	_____ doz. @ \$16 doz.(4 doz.\$55)	\$ _____
Koulourakia	_____ doz. @ \$8 doz.(4 doz.\$30)	\$ _____
Finikia	_____ doz. @ \$16 doz.(4 doz.\$55)	\$ _____
Variety Package	_____ large @ \$18 each	\$ _____

Choose from the following pick-up dates:

Saturday, Dec. 11th, or Dec. 18th from 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Sunday, Dec. 12th, or Dec. 19th from 12:00 – 1:00 pm

or call Penny (860-848-3665) if another arrangement is needed.

Please return this form with your check payable to: Enosis Philoptochos Society

Pick-up Date _____ 200 Hempstead St., New London, Ct. 06320

Thank you for your order!

The Good News – Page 7c

Enosis Philoptochos Society would like to thank all of you who donated to our **Annual Community Christmas Card** in 2021.

Your donation allowed Philoptochos to help several charities such as: Philoxenia House, Hellenic College/Holy Cross, Autism Assistance Fund, IOCC (health kits), St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center

Local charities such as: American Cancer Society, Oratorical Festival, Safe Futures, St. Sophia's Sunday School and Greek School, Memorial Scholarships for Graduating High School Seniors, and Welcoming New Parents & their Babies to the St. Sophia Family (Churching Service).

Please help us continue to support these and other charities in the future. Starting **October 31st through November 28th**, you may sign up for the **2021 Community Christmas Card**.

You may sign up by completing the form below and mailing it with your donation to:

JoAnn Ballassi
874 Vauxhall Street Ext
Quaker Hill, CT 06375



2021 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD ORDER FORM

Name _____
As you want it to appear on the card – PLEASE PRINT

Telephone Number _____ (If we should have any questions)

I would like to donate \$ _____ (minimum donation \$20.00, please)
for the Annual Community Christmas Card.

_____ Check (made out to Enosis Philoptochos Society) _____ Cash

Deadline is Monday, November 28, 2021
Philoptochos thanks you for your support!

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School	4	5	6	7	8 New London Soup Kitchen 4:00 pm	9
10 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School	11	12 Parish Council Meeting 6 pm	13	14	15	16
17 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School Ministry Fair One Year Memorial- Angelo Pappadopoulos	18	19 Philoptochos Meeting 6 pm	20	21	22	23
24 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School 40 Day Memorial- Anatoli Pasalides	25 St. Demetrios Vespers 6:00 pm	26 St. Demetrios Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am	27	28	29	30
31 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School						

ST. SOPHIA CHOIR

On Behalf of the St. Sophia Church Choir, I would like to extend t you an invitation to join us.

Our Choir membership has been drastically reduced, and we are in need of more strong voices, especially younger voices, but we will accept all voices. We have rehearsals during the week to prepare for the hymns that we will sing that Sunday. Rehearsals will be in the evening and will run for no more than 1½ hours. Can't read Greek! That is OK, because all the Greek words in our hymns have phonetics. All we ask from you is a decent voice and a commitment to participate. Hope you will join us.

John Fakis, St. Sophia Choir Director

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL Please Volunteer Your Time!	5	6
7 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School 40 Day Memorial - Clara Krotsis	8	9 Parish Council Meeting 6:00pm	10	11	12 New London Soup Kitchen 4:00 pm	13
14 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School	15	16	17	18	19	20 Vespers 5:00 pm Entrance of the Theotokos
21 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Sunday School	22	23	24 Office Closed.	25 St. Catherine Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:00 am Happy Thanksgiving!	26	27
28 Orthros/Divine Liturgy 8:30 am No Sunday School	29	30				

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DETAILS TO FOLLOW**