

# THE EPISTLE

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church

35 North Malin Road

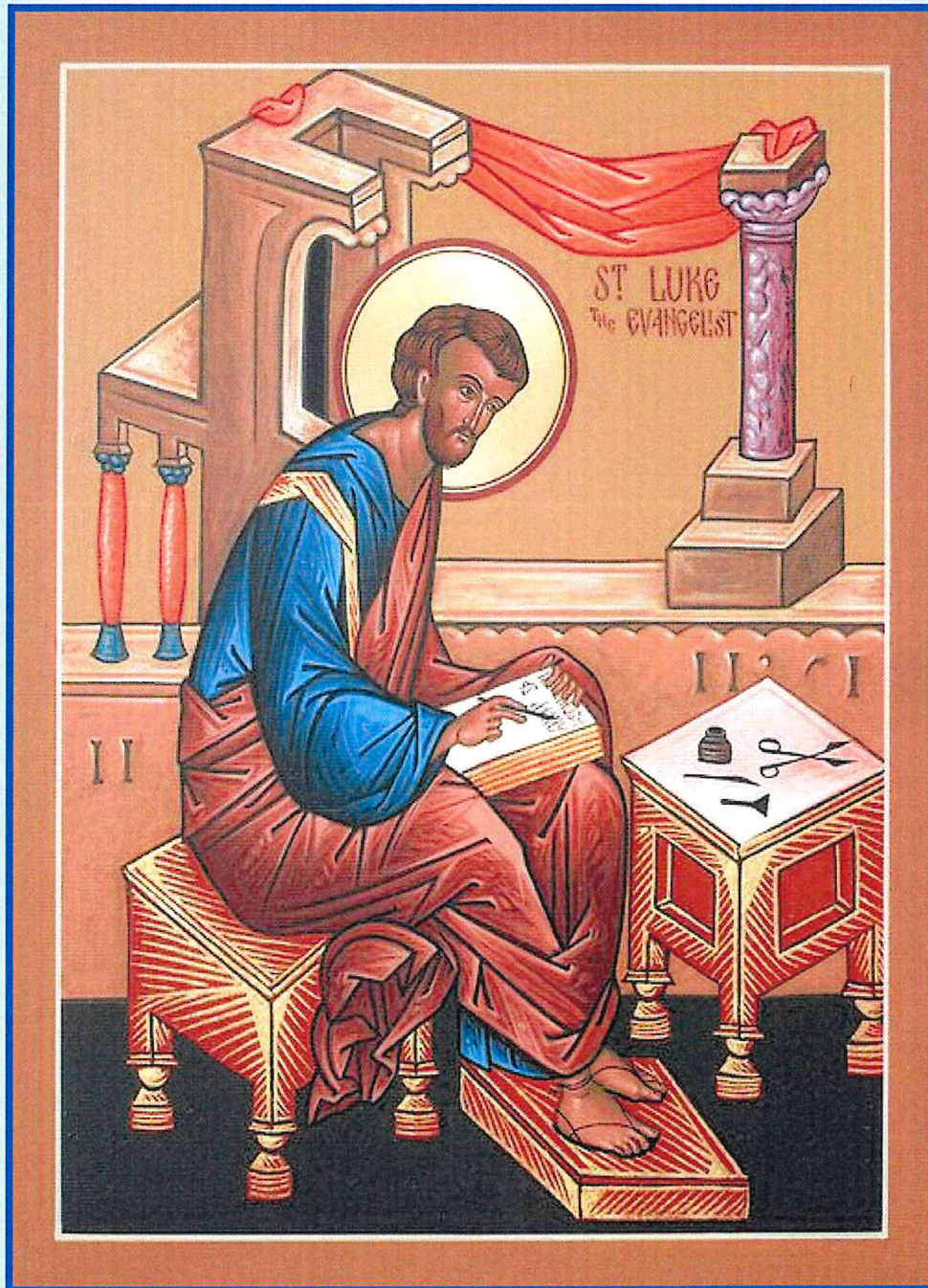
Broomall, PA 19008

Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

(610) 353-1592

[www.st-luke.org](http://www.st-luke.org)

MAY 2026





# ST. LUKE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

35 N. Malin Rd., P.O. Box 198, Broomall, PA, 19008 · Tel: (610) 353-1592 · Fax: (610) 353-8714  
Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

## PASTORAL MESSAGE

May, 2026

Christ is Risen - Χριστος Ανεστη,

- Christ is Risen from the dead, by death, He has trampled upon death and to those in the tombs He has granted life.
- Χριστος ανεστη εκ νεκρων, θανατω θανατον πατησας, και τοις εν τοις μνημασι, ζων χαρισαμενος.
- Christos Anesti ek nekron, thanato thanaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnemasi, zoen harisamenos.

Beloved,

The above hymn reverberates throughout our Churches, homes and fellowships until the eve of Ascension Thursday, as we continue to celebrate Christ's Resurrection. The triumphant hymn awakens us not only to our anticipated resurrection, but also to the spiritual renewal we can begin to experience in this life.

Friends, being renewed in Jesus Christ is to have a personal relationship with Him, as we have been saying throughout the sacred services of Holy Week and Pascha. Let us read His Word, let us receive His spiritual and physical healing through the sacraments of the Church, let us speak with Him daily through prayer, let us not hinder Christ from being part of our lives again.

It is my prayer that we allow the joy of Pascha to continue throughout the year as I invite each of you to celebrate it with me at every Sunday Divine Liturgy, which is in fact, a celebration of our Lord's Resurrection.

Truly He is Risen - Αληθως Ανεστη

Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter



# PARISH LIFE

## Weddings



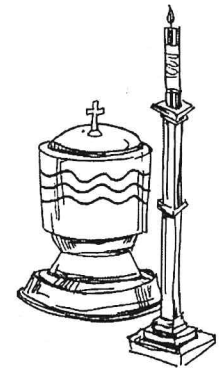
**Nektarios Vasiliadis & Danielle Pellegrini** were united in Holy Matrimony on April 17, 2026. **Panagiotis Vasiliadis** stood by their side as the sponsor and the witness was **Stephen Pellegrini**.

**Joseph Dolan & Demitra Karalis** were united in Holy Matrimony on April 25, 2026. **Jerry Karalis** stood by their side as the sponsor and the witness was **Ariana Karalis**.

*May their married life together be blessed with spiritual joy always.*

## Baptisms

The son of **John & Dahlia Tusa** was baptized on April 15, 2026. His sponsor, **Victoria Petsinis**, baptized him with the name *Jack*. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **John Francis Tusa III**.



The son of **Nicholas & Kylie Kusturiss** was baptized on April 19, 2026. His sponsor, **Christian Xitas**, baptized him with the name *Dimitrios*. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Dimitrios John Kusturiss**.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

March Stewardship 2026

### Stewardship March 2026

As of 3/31/2026		As of 3/31/2025		Difference
# of Stewards	310	# of Stewards	307	3.00
Pledged	\$ 411,260.00	Pledged	\$419,436.62	\$ (8,176.62)
Given	\$ 275,008.40	Given	\$279,237.69	\$ (4,229.29)
Mean*	\$1,190.81	Average*	\$1,273.12	\$ (82.31)
Median	\$900.00	Median*	\$900.00	\$ -
Mode	\$1,000.00	* Less the three highest and lowest pledges.		\$ 1,000.00
* Less the five highest and lowest pledges.				

# MAY 2026 ECCLESIASTICAL CALENDAR

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday of the Paralytic**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> - Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday of the Blind Man**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – Holy Ascension & Sts Constantine & Helen**

Services to be determined. See website or weekly bulletin.

**Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Council**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

## **Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> - Memorial Day Cemetery Visit Schedule**

Cemetery Visitations will take place:

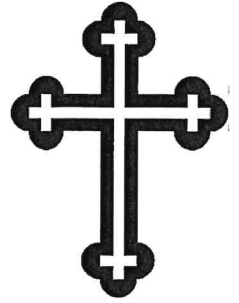
Glenwood Cemetery at 9:00am

Fernwood Cemetery at 10:00am

Arlington Cemetery at 11:30am

SS Peter & Paul Cemetery at 12:45pm

*Edgewood Cemetery – contact Fr. Christ if interested*






**Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – Saturday of Souls**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – Holy Pentecost**

8:50am Orthros and 10:00am Divine Liturgy

# MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 10am Senior Men <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>	2 <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>
3 PC General Assembly (after liturgy) 10:30am Sunday School / SPARK  <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>	4      <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>	5 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 5:30pm Elements of Theology 7pm PC Meeting 7:30pm Adult Volleyball  <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>	6 11am Bible Study     <i>Bid N Buy Prep!!</i>	7 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 6pm Bid N Buy  	8 10am Senior Men	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 	11 4:30pm FTIN Cooking	12 10am Greek Affair Baking 5pm Greek School 5:30pm Elements of Theology 7:30pm Adult Volleyball	13 11am Bible Study 7pm Boys Basketball	14 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	15 10am Senior Men	16
17 10:30am Sunday School	18 6:30pm Philoptochos Board Meeting	19 10am Greek Affair Baking 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 5:30pm Elements of Theology	20 11am Bible Study 7pm Boys Basketball	21 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	22 10am Senior Men	23
24	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>  <i>OFFICE CLOSED!!</i>	26 10am Greek Affair Baking 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 5:30pm Elements of Theology 7:30pm Adult Volleyball	27 11am Bible Study 7pm Boys Basketball	28 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 7pm Choir Rehearsal	29 10am Senior Men	30
31 10:30am Sunday School - End of the School Year Pizza Party						





## HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

are Father Christ's priority.

If a loved one or family member is hospitalized,  
please notify the Church Office at (610) 353-1592.

All hospitals do not notify parishes of hospitalized parishioners.

## ST. LUKE PRAYER GROUP

There is nothing more powerful than the power of prayer. The Prayer Chain email list is up and running. This prayer chain allows us to communicate with anyone who wishes to be on it. Once a person in need comes to our attention, each member on that list will be contacted and asked to pray for the one in need.

Imagine someone suffering and 10, 50, 100, 200 or 500 people praying for them that same evening. Truly friends, there is nothing more powerful than prayer.



*How do I register?* Email Presbytera Michele at [SaintLukePrayer@gmail.com](mailto:SaintLukePrayer@gmail.com)

## MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY INVITATION

In an ongoing effort to care for and support our St. Luke family, I am inviting parishioners to join a Meal Train ministry. This ministry provides meals to individuals and families in times of need, due to illness, recovery, or other difficult circumstances. Participants will receive occasional notifications by email or text with the opportunity to sign up to prepare or order a meal for delivery. To make the process simple and respectful, a cooler will be placed outside the home, allowing for easy, non-intrusive drop-off.

If you feel called to offer this small act of love and service, I welcome you to join us. Please see Presvytera Michele or email her at [micheleakontos@gmail.com](mailto:micheleakontos@gmail.com) to be added to the list. Thank you for your consideration and for helping us live out our faith through care for one another. Sincere gratitude to those who have already helped, God bless your kindness and care.



## REGISTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Register your email address online at [st-luke.org/register-contact](http://st-luke.org/register-contact) to receive timely emails from Fr. Christ on Church and Parish Life. You can also use your QR/Barcode scanner from your mobile device by scanning the code below.

## COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

<b>MAY</b>	<b>Chairs:</b>	<b>Sandra Liacouras</b>	<b>Sue Clark</b>
<b>3-May</b>	Barbara Papageorge	Patricia Baldwin	Martha Tavantzis
<b>10-May</b>		<b><i>Mother's Day Sunday</i></b>	
<b>17-May</b>	Diane Sioutis	Spridoula Bottos	Marinela Tsapournas
<b>24-May</b>	Sandra Liacouras	Sue Clark	Maria Scavitto
<b>31-May</b>	Stacie Haselidis	Elena Aughey	Kaliopi Pappas
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>Chairs:</b>	<b>Diana Palumbo</b>	<b>Betsy Pappas</b>
<b>7-June</b>		<b><i>Graduate Sunday</i></b>	
<b>14-June</b>	Phyllis Roebas	Christina Mahjouri	Betsy Georgelos
<b>21-June</b>		<b><i>Father's Day Sunday</i></b>	

Coffee Hour Chairs: Diana Palumbo lovetocook1219@aol.com, E ffeie Guthrie kotisa@netzero.net, Betsy Pappas vasilikipappas@yahoo.com

## DIAKONIA SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>On Duty</b>	<b>On Duty</b>
<b>May 3</b>	Anna Andreadis	Diane Sioutis
<b>May 10 (Mother's Day)</b>	Barbara Papageorge	Tom Trantas
<b>May 17</b>	Ellena Vaganos	Marta Laynas
<b>May 24</b>	N/A	Kathy Fisfis
<b>May 31</b>	Linda Lempere	Vasie Marinakos

Contact Tom Trantas at tomisgreek@yahoo.com or 610.203.1132

## 2026 GREEK AFFAIR BAKING SCHEDULE

*All Sessions Begin at 10:00am*

<u>PASTRY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHAIRS</u>
GALAKTOBOURIKO	Tuesday May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Sioutis Karen Kotapka
KOULOOURAKIA	Tuesday May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Trantas Ginny Markos Anna Trantas Michelle Karalis

GREEK AFFAIR BAKING CHAIRS

Diane Sioutis, Karen Kotapka, Maria Carafides, Eugenia Gekas

## Join Our New Online Church Directory

We are excited to introduce our long-awaited **Online Directory through Realm** - a wonderful way for our parish family to stay connected and grow closer together. By choosing to participate, you'll be helping us put **names to faces** and strengthen the sense of community within our church. You will also have the option to **upload a photo of yourself or your family**, making it even easier for everyone to get to know one another.

### How the Directory Works

The directory is permission-based, meaning:

- Only those who choose to share their information will appear
- You control exactly what details are visible (phone, email, address, etc.)
- Your privacy is always respected

As more parishioners opt in, the directory will continue to grow into a valuable resource for our Church community.

### How to Participate

Joining the directory is simple:

- Log in to your Realm account (via the website or Realm Connect app) [www.onrealm.org/stluke](http://www.onrealm.org/stluke)
- Click on your name or profile icon and select **“My Profile”**
- Choose **“Edit Profile”** and review your information
- Adjust your **privacy settings** to share the details you'd like included
- Upload a photo if you wish
- Click **Save** (if you have another family member attached to your profile, you will want to follow the same steps for that individual)

### How to Access the Directory

- Log into your Realm account via the website or Realm Connect app
- From the main menu, select **“Directory”**
- Browse and search for fellow parishioners who have chosen to be listed

### We're Here to Help

If you're unsure how to log in or update your profile, simply contact the Stewardship Committee at [stlukegiving@gmail.com](mailto:stlukegiving@gmail.com) - we're happy to assist you! Let's come together to build a stronger, more connected parish community!



# CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD 2026



**Virginia**

**July 5-11**

**Maryland**

**July 12-18**

**New Jersey**

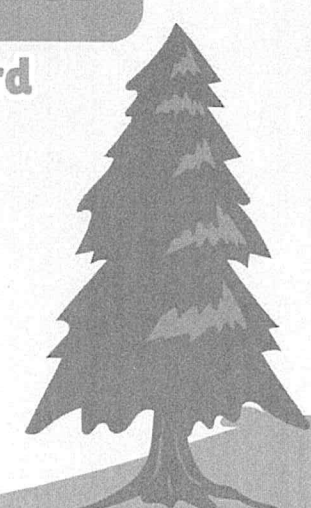
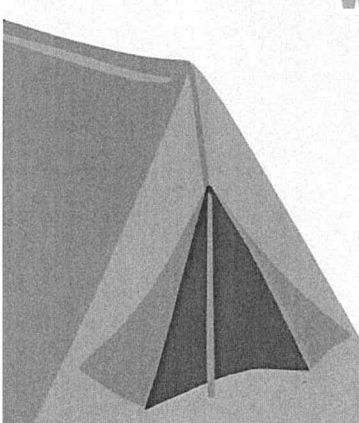
**July 12-18**

**Registration Opens February 2026!**

[www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd](http://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)



GREEK ORTHODOX  
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



# LITTLE ANGELS - READY \* SET \* PLAY....



Looking for a fun, welcoming space for your little one to play and make new friends? Come along to *Little Angels*, our weekly playgroup held every **Thursday from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM in Room 208**. It's the perfect place for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers to enjoy toys, songs, crafts, and friendly conversation in a relaxed environment. All are welcome – we'd love to see you there!

For information contact [stlukeplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:stlukeplaygroup@gmail.com) or call/text Maria Bougiamas (717) 405-9854.

## JOY/HOPE

Junior Orthodox Youth • Hellenic Orthodox Primary Education Kindergarten- 6th grade

Are you looking for a way to connect your children with their faith, make new friends, and grow in the love of Christ? We're excited for a new year of learning, laughter, and love in Christ- and we'd love for your family to be part of it!

Upcoming Events:

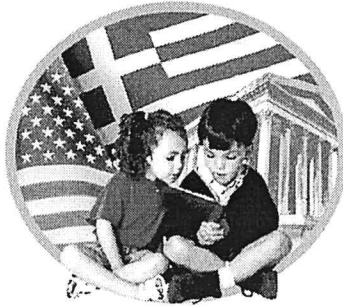
Saturday May 9, 2026 - AHEPA 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Pan-Hellenic Track & Field Meet

Marple Newtown High School – 120 Media Line Rd Newtown Square, PA

Check-in 9:00am Event 10:00am Closing 2:00pm

Fun for all ages! Races/Field Events Food/Drink

For more information, please contact Alexa Angelakos or Kally Sioutis at [stlukejoyhope@gmail.com](mailto:stlukejoyhope@gmail.com).



## St. Luke Greek School

Our Greek School students have had a busy start to spring! The students have made a lot of progress with their lessons, which they displayed on their midterm exams.

The Greek Independence Day program brought the Greek School community together to celebrate this important holiday. The students (from pre-k to adult) performed poems, dances, skits, and songs, to commemorate March 25. Thanks to the wonderful teachers for making it such a special experience.

April was a busy month with school picture day, the Philadelphia Greek Independence Day parade, and the annual real-world experience for students. More in next month's newsletter!

Upcoming Events:

May 12- Exams

May 26- Report cards and conferences; PTO meeting (5:30 PM)

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Hello Sunday School Students and Families,

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Here is the Sunday School class and worship schedule for May and June 2026:

May

May 3 Worship and Classes; **Spark Sunday**

May 10 No Classes, Mother's Day. Mother's Day poems read by Sunday School Students.

May 17 Worship and Classes

May 24 No classes, Memorial Day weekend

May 31 Worship, Great Feast of Pentecost; **Divine Liturgy followed by Vespers of Pentecost and Pizza Party in Social Hall to commemorate both the end of the Sunday School year and the Birthday of the Church.**

June

June 21 Father's Day poems read by Sunday School Students.

**National Orthodox Baby Shower**- Please enjoy this lovely letter from our devoted National Orthodox Baby Shower Chairperson, and Sunday School teacher, Helen Kopitas, to the donors to this wonderful outreach:

*"Thank you for participating in the National Orthodox Baby Shower and for being a beautiful witness - in our St. Luke Parish, to the community...and for the world! What a wonderful tribute to the Annunciation, a meaningful reflection during Great Lent, and a cause for great joy during Pascha! We are so humbled by your kindness and generosity! All thanks be to God! Here are our parish results:*

**1,760 Diapers; 99 Packages of wipes; 28 Bottles Shampoo/Wash; 9 Bottles Baby Lotion; 5 Desitin/ Diaper Rash creams; 6 Cans of Formula; 6 Baby Bottles; 8 Baby toys; 126 Pieces of clothing (NB-4T; 12 Blankets; 1 Baby towel; 6 Baby bibs; 9 Pairs of socks; 1 Baby nail clipper; 2 car seats; 1 stroller; 1 high chair; 4 Kids' dinnerware sets; 9 Kids' suitcases with blanket/toy; 6 Wooden Growth Chart Keepsakes; \$60 total gift cards."**  
**All items were given to Chester County ConnectCare in West Chester.**

We would like to personally thank Helen for bringing this awesome outreach to the families of our Sunday School and the St. Luke Community. Her passion for this cause, to support women who choose to keep their babies despite being in very difficult financial circumstances, has inspired all of us to remember yet another very vulnerable sector of our community- in prayer, as well as with much needed baby supplies. Xronia Polla, dear Helen!

**Palm Folding on Lazarus Saturday**- Our Sunday School staff and students, along with other St. Luke parishioners, joined together in the Social Hall after the Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday in order to make palm crosses for distribution in church the next day.

Thank you to all who attended this get together and continued our yearly tradition of making palm crosses in remembrance of Our Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem. More than 1300 palm crosses were made! Very special thanks go to our generous donors from the Westgate Pub in Havertown- Pete and Sophia Alexopoulos and the Raptis family- who provided lunch for our all of our talented palm cross artists. Xronia Polla to Pete and Sophia, and the Raptis family!

**Holy Friday Helpers Retreat-** The Sunday School conducted its annual Holy Friday Retreat following the morning Royal Hours service on April 11, 2026. We were very pleased to have more than 50 of our Sunday School students in attendance! Our younger students, with some adult help and supervision, began the retreat by pulling bay leaves off their branches so that the leaves could be joyfully tossed by Metropolitan Apostolos during the Holy Saturday morning service. Two large baskets were filled with bayleaves by our eager students. When needed, the children also fluffed flowers for the ladies of Philoptochos who were working nearby in church, decorating the Epitaphion. The GOYA-aged students had the job of preparing the candles for Holy Friday and Pascha by feeding red or white cups onto the tall tapers. Following the completion of these tasks, the Sunday School provided food for all those who were working to prepare themselves and the church for the Holy Friday and Anastasi services, namely: the young people attending the Sunday School retreat; the amazing women of Philoptochos who decorated the Epitaphion so beautifully; Parish Council members; and Sunday School families and teachers. Special thanks go to the entire Kevgas family for behind the scenes planning for the day, and for ordering and overseeing the food. Marina Despotopoulou, our 4th grade Sunday School teacher, worked very hard to develop 2 special crafts for the day- a Crucifixion scene for the children to color and put together, to remind them of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, and special candles to decorate, reminding the children that Christ is the Light of the World. Last, but certainly not least, it was a true blessing and inspiration to have Fr. Christ speak to the Sunday School students about the significance of the Holy Cross, in general, and Holy Friday, in particular. Father Christ is completely in his element when speaking to our young people, holding the attention of all who were listening, from the youngest children to the oldest teenagers. They benefited greatly from his wisdom and counseling. Xronia Polla to our dear Fr. Christ!

Many young ladies served as Myrrh-bearers during the weekend of Pascha. They were: Alexia Brennan, Maria Canakis, Margarita Georgelos, Eirini Kalisperis, Eleni Kalisperis, Stavroula Karalis, Kalliopi Kathopoulis, Marianthi Kathopoulis, Markella Kevgas, Katalina Kontostergios, Kolette Kontostergios, Zoe Miller, Grace Parkerson, Irma Poggio, Andonia Pylaras, Chryssa Rodgers, Alessandra Sioutis, Penelope Sioutis, Sophia Thomas, Lianna Thompson, and Evelyn Uritsky. We are so grateful to them for embodying the spirit of the original Myrrh-bearers who were devoted followers of our Lord, both before and after His Passion. They were also the first to receive the news of the Resurrection. May our

Myrrh-bearers be likewise blessed throughout their lives for their service to Christ and His holy church. We also appreciate Marina Despotopoulou, Marianna and Markella Kevgas, and Alexis Limberakis for helping Panayota Kevgas prepare them for their roles at the various services between April 10 and April 12!

We also thank George, Marianna and Markella Kevgas, Art Karros, Andy Kalisperis, and Tanya Uritsky for their invaluable assistance wherever and whenever it was needed during the retreat. We couldn't have had such a successful day without your help! Our deepest apologies to anyone who helped whom we have not acknowledged by name. Our Good, Gracious and Resurrected Lord knows of your good works-may He bless you abundantly for them!

**Readers for Agape Service on Pascha**- We were honored by the linguistic gifts of these members of the Sunday School family who read the Gospel at the Agape service on Pascha morning in the following languages: Katalina Kontostergios (Greek); Kolette Kontostergios (English); Konstantinos Kontostergios (Spanish); Marina Despotopoulou (French); and Victoria Vlahos (Italian). It was a truly awesome opportunity for each of them to not only read the Gospel in front of the congregation, but to also announce the Good News of Christ's Resurrection to all peoples! God bless and Xronia Polla to Katalina, Kolette, Konstantinos, Marina, and Victoria for continuing this vital Pascha tradition for our parish!

**Readers for Mother's Day and Father's Day Poems**- The Sunday School is currently recruiting 3 readers to honor the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers and aunts of our parish by reading heartfelt poems on **Mother's Day, May 10, 2026** at the end of Liturgy. We would, likewise, love to have the same number of readers on **Father's Day, June 21, 2026**, to honor the fathers, grandfathers, godfathers and uncles of our parish with poems.

**Readers for Divine Liturgy**- Please encourage your children to **volunteer to read the Epistle or the Communion Prayer** during Divine Liturgy. We will send you the reading(s) ahead of time so that your child can practice and become comfortable with the texts beforehand. Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for church on the day when he or she is scheduled to read- modestly and respectfully, as is common for all weekly services, a special Feast Day, or when celebrating a Holy Sacrament of the church. For example, athletic or workout clothes would not be appropriate for a reader to wear while leading the congregation in prayer or a reading from the Holy Bible.

**Questions about Sunday School?** Please contact our Sunday School Directors at [stlukesundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesundayschool@gmail.com) or visit <https://www.ss.st-luke.org>, which will be updated throughout the year with additional information and resources for families.

# CHOIR

Melanie Sarakatsannis is thanked for sharing her beautiful singing voice with the congregation of St. Luke at the Holy Tuesday Bridegroom Service. Soprano soloist, Melanie Sarakatsannis along with choir members performed the Hymns of Holy Tuesday and Kassiani Hymn. Choir members are thanked for all their hard work in rehearsing the many hymns of Lent and Holy Week. Their participation as Church Musicians is very much appreciated.

*Thank you St. Luke Choir Members for your participation during the 2025-2026 Choir Season.*

Senior Choir: Maria Armenti, Max Armenti, Veronica Crisp, Carol Crouse, Robert Jaquette, Alexandra Kokonos, Nicholas Lamprinakos, Renee Lamprinakos, Madeleine Le Bouteiller, Carol Leon, Ted Leon, Patricia Missiras, Peter J. Missiras, Evan Palmieri, Nicole Papadopoulos, Peter Pavlis, Ilias Plakakis, Alexandra Perrot, Demetra Peters, George Poole, Pamela Sande, Cathy Vinnicombe, Janine Voudouris, Maria Zissimos

Youth Choir: Katerina Poole

Choir Director: Dena Papadopoulos

*For information about joining the St. Luke Senior or Sunday Youth Choir contact Dena Papadopoulos, St. Luke Choir Director at [dena80papa@gmail.com](mailto:dena80papa@gmail.com)*

## ***For Those in Need...***

### ***you may ask, "What are we doing lately?"***

May, 2026 Epistle

***For Those In Need (FTIN)*** helps in St. Luke's outreach to the community, offering necessities such as food, school supplies, clothing, shelter, etc. to those in our local area who lack them. FTIN also works with other parish groups to provide discretionary assistance to fellow parishioners in need.

Let's start with a shoutout for the donors of 44 hams during St. Luke's Lenten Ham Drive!

On Bright Monday, FTIN's ***April Cook*** prepared 165 dinners for The Life Center (Upper Darby) & The Salvation Army (Chester); thanks to all those FTIN volunteer Chefs who turned out!

Our ***May Cook*** is scheduled for Monday, **MAY 11<sup>th</sup>** @ 4:30pm.

FTIN continues to support the ***Salvation Army's food pantry*** with a particular emphasis on their **homeless & senior populations' needs**, with deliveries scheduled on a bi-monthly basis (Tuesday, JUN 2<sup>nd</sup> next month).

### **Supporting FTIN – How can I help?**

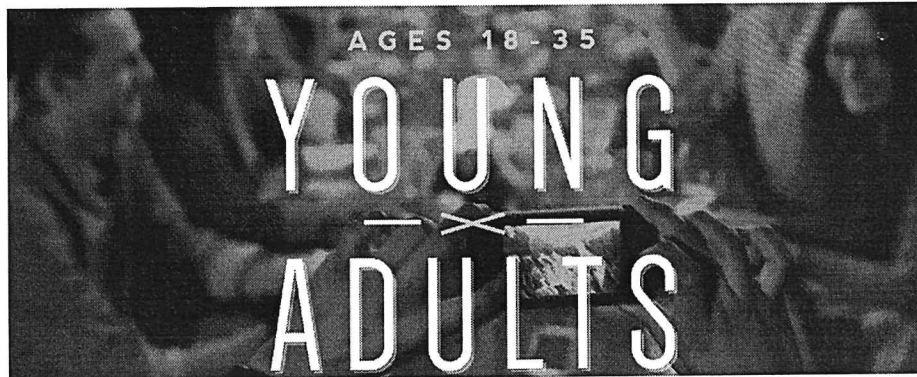
It is your support that is enabling FTIN to make a difference by expanding its outreach during these times of food insecurity and hunger affecting the lives of so many. ***Thank you . . .*** for your generosity which has continued uninterrupted now over so many years!

We welcome your Stewardship whether offered as helping hands or in financial support. No donation is too small, and your contributions to FTIN remain a meaningful gift "for those who have everything" or in memory of a beloved family member or friend. Donations can be made at St. Luke's website, or Checks (payable to "For Those In Need") may be sent to the parish office.

To learn more about FTIN, how you can volunteer or to make a donation, please contact:

Alan Pcsolyar at: [apcsolyar@comcast.net](mailto:apcsolyar@comcast.net) or 610-457-6033

## Spread the Word and Join YAL!



If you know someone 18-35 years old, then the St. Luke's Young Adult League (YAL) may be for them! Not only is it a chance to meet young people from other churches, but it can make them closer to those who also go to St. Luke's. The goal is to bring everyone together and share great memories through our faith and almsgiving.

To join this group, please text Alexander Arcidiacono at 610-888-6117 or Louie Kontaras at 610-304-4214. Or you can scan our GroupMe below and look up @stlukeyal on Instagram!



## SENIOR GROUP

The Senior Group of St. Luke's has arranged with Greek Orthodox Monastery of Theotokos, White Haven, PA and KRAPP Coaches, a local transport company this year's Spring Excursion, Pilgrimage to Agia Skepi.

The Bus will depart St. Luke's at 8:30 am. on Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> and return to St. Luke's the same day by 6:00 pm

The Coach can accommodate 56 passengers. Twenty-26 seats are reserved by the senior group. The remaining seats are available on a first come first served bases to St. Luke's parishioners.

The price for the round-trip transportation and donation to the monastery is \$50 per person. Includes Lunch provided by the Nuns of the Monastery.

For Reservations call: Kosta Bouikidis 484-919-4337, Tom Antonakis 610-356-3605 or Peter Karamolengos 610-328-3181



ST. LUKE PHILOPTOCHOS  
PRESENTS...



# 80'S LADIES' BID N BUY

*Big hair, big hearts!*

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

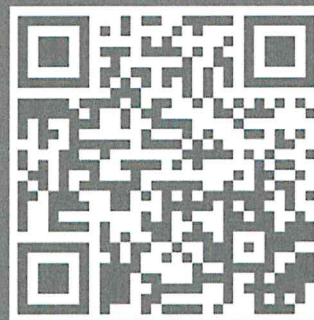
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BROOMALL, PA

CONTACT:

[bidnbuy@stlukephiloptochos.org](mailto:bidnbuy@stlukephiloptochos.org)  
or call 610-353-1592



# PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY NEWS

## SAVE THE DATE

**Bid 'n Buy** - Thursday, May 7, 2026

**Reading at CCSA** - Wednesday, May 13, 2026

**Graduate Sunday** - Sunday, June 7, 2026

Form deadline- May 30, 2026

**Father's Day Luncheon** - Sunday, June 21, 2026

**Bag Bingo** - November 6, 2026

**Boutiques & Greek Treats** - December 5-6, 2026

**Coffee Hour Volunteers**- Coffee Hour continues throughout May! The schedule for volunteers is available, so please look for your name and, hopefully, you will be able to come and volunteer on the day that you are assigned. If you cannot make it for that day, please find a replacement. We thank you all for your help. Effie Guthrie, Betsy Pappas and Diana Palumbo, Chairs

**Epitaphion Decorating**- We are indebted to the devoted women of Philoptochos who volunteered their time and artistic gifts to beautifully decorate the Epitaphion on Holy Friday, April 10, 2026. Their efforts always enhance our worship at our beloved St. Luke on the most solemn day of the church year. We would like to express our gratitude to the following who upheld this beautiful annual tradition on both April 9 and April 10, 2026: Alexandra Georgiou, Carnation Karros, Marianne Papageorge, Alexandra Perrot, Deme Peters, and Alexandra Vamvakidou. We would also like to express our thanks to Alexandra Georgiou for ordering the flowers for us through her flower shop. Xronia Polla to all these amazing women!

**2026 Bid 'n Buy**-80's Ladies" Bid 'n Buy – May 7 at 6 PM. Join us for our biggest Philoptochos fundraiser of the year! **Limited tickets available**- please join our waitlist using the QR code on the flyer in this Epistle. Advance sales only; no tickets at the door. ?s contact Presvytera Michele at [bidnbuytix@stlukephiloptochos.org](mailto:bidnbuytix@stlukephiloptochos.org) or 610-550-9154.

**Preview & Bid Early: Sunday, 5/3** during coffee hour until 1:30 PM and Wednesday, 5/6 from 5–7 PM. (Winners need not be present!) **Touch of Luxury Raffle:** Return your raffles and purchase more via the QR code for a chance to win one of eight prizes.

**Sponsorships: Become a sponsor** by scanning the QR code on our flyer; **sponsors are listed in the Event Program** unless they prefer anonymity.

**Reading at CCSA-** On Wednesday, May 13th, Philoptochos will be conducting our spring 2026 read with our third-grade students at Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA). If you are interested in reading with these enthusiastic students, contact Anna Hadgis, [anna.hadgis@gmail.com](mailto:anna.hadgis@gmail.com), as we always look forward to including more sisters in our connection with CCSA. The book is made available in advance for you to preview and the groups consist of fewer than 10 children. The session runs for 45 mins, and then we gather the group for a picture. We are able to carpool from Church if you would like a ride, and we will depart from St. Luke for CCSA at 9 a.m.



We are excited to announce that on Sunday, June 7, 2026, the graduates of the Class of 2026 will gather to be recognized for their accomplishments and hard-earned degrees.

If you have a graduate in your family, please complete the form in this Epistle, or the form on <https://www.st-luke.org>, or scan the QRC below. If you do not have access to the online form, you can mail the form to: 35 N. Malin Road, Broomall, PA 19008 or email complete information from this form to the committee at [saintlukegradsunday@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukegradsunday@gmail.com). Deadline for the form is **Saturday, May 30, 2026**.



**Father's Day Luncheon-** Dear Sisters in Philoptochos, Christos Anesti! Please join us in worship and celebrate the fathers of our community on Sunday, June 21, 2026. Below is the link for the SignUp Genius for this year's Father's Day lunch event. Assistance is needed for the following:

1. Set up on Saturday June 20th, from 10:00 -12:00
2. Final set up/ serve and clean up Sunday June 21st from 10:30-2:00

We hope you will join us- all are welcome. SignUp Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44AFAC2AA7FEC43-56110369-2025>.

Thank you, Lisa Shaiko ([lisashaiko@gmail.com](mailto:lisashaiko@gmail.com)) and Fotini Skrimbas ([Skribas@gmail.com](mailto:Skribas@gmail.com)).

**Philoptochos Charity Committee-** A change in date for Father's visit to **Whitehorse Village** prevented our Philoptochos sisters from attending, but Father, Noel and Nikos were present on March 25, 2026. The residents were treated royally and engaged in lively conversations after Father gave them Communion. Plants for each resident and a Lenten Chocolate Cake were provided. Everyone wished Mrs. Liadis a Happy 102nd birthday and sang heartily.

On April 8, **Grands Stepping Up** was able to spread joy to families in our community by providing Easter baskets filled with both treats and meaningful support. As an organization dedicated to supporting grandparents and other relatives raising children, Grands Stepping Up works to ease both the financial and emotional challenges these "grandfamilies" face every day. A total of \$2,745.48 was dedicated

to the Easter baskets, including eighty \$25 Giant Foods gift cards (totaling \$2,000) and seventeen \$20 gift cards for teens ages 14–17 (totaling \$340), ensuring that even our older children felt remembered and celebrated. The remaining funds were used for thoughtful basket fillers to complete each gift. We are especially proud to share that our Sunday School children lovingly helped assemble the baskets—adding an extra layer of care and community spirit to everyone. Additionally, \$6,730 was used to cover a range of essential expenses, including household bills and ongoing financial obligations for the grandfamilies.

**Sponsorship of Floral Décor**- Icon and Floral Sponsorship opportunities are available throughout the year for ecclesiastic feast days. Sponsorship can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or for the well-being of your family.

*Ladies Philoptochos would like to thank the following sponsors for their donations:*

- Vastardis Family, for their sponsorship of Palms for Sunday, April 5, 2026, Palm Sunday, in honor of their parents, Louis and Goldie Vastardis.
- Joanne Solomon, for her sponsorship of Sunday, April 5, 2026, Palm Sunday, Christ's Entrance into Jerusalem icon, in loving memory of John Solomon.
- Anonymous, for her sponsorship of Sunday, April 5, 2026, Palm Sunday: Christ's Entrance into Jerusalem floral, in loving memory of their departed loved ones.
- Anonymous, for her sponsorship of Sunday, April 5, 2026, Palm Sunday: Bridegroom (Nymphios) floral, in loving memory of her departed loved ones.
- Alexandra Perrot, for her sponsorship of Holy Tuesday, April 7, 2026: Hymn of Kassiani icon, in loving memory of her parents.
- Anonymous, for her sponsorship of Holy Tuesday, April 7, 2026: Hymn of Kassiani floral, for the well-being of her loved one.
- Sophia Tsakiris, for her sponsorship of Holy Thursday, April 9, 2026: Extreme humility icon, in loving memory of beloved family members.
- Stephanie Abramides, for her sponsorship of Holy Thursday, April 9, 2026: Wreath of red roses, for the well-being of her family.
- Janine McCartney, for her sponsorship of Holy Thursday, April 9, 2026: Lavender sprigs, in loving memory of: The Perzsel and Tatigikis Families
- Maria Kalisperis, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Taking down Christ from the Cross, Apokathelosis icon, in loving memory of Stavros Kalisperis.
- Anonymous, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Taking down Christ from the Cross, Apokathelosis floral, for the well-being of her loved one.
- Maria Gregory, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Gardenias, in loving memory of Rev. Father George D. Gregory and Presbyteria Cleopatra.
- Dr. Kathryn Sapnas, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Gardenias, for her well-being.
- Theodora Lucado, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Gardenias, in loving memory of Tilemahos & Maria Kamberogiannis.

- Katina Dollos, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Gardenias, for the well-being of her family.
- Anonymous, for sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Flowers, for the well-being of her loved one.
- Dr. Kathryn Sapnas, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Flowers, in loving memory of George and Jennie Sapnas.
- Kathleen Chimicles, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Flowers, for the well-being of the Chimicles Family.
- Theodora Lucado, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Flowers, in loving memory of Tilemahos & Maria Kamberogiannis.
- Christina Thomas, for her sponsorship of Holy Friday, April 10, 2026: Epitaphio Flowers, in loving memory of Speros and Ute Thomas:
- Janine McCartney, for her sponsorship of Holy Saturday, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves, in loving memory of the Perzsel and Tatigikis Families.
- Andreas Kalisperis, for his sponsorship of Holy Saturday morning, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves, in loving memory of Stavros.
- Anonymous, for sponsorship of Holy Saturday morning, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves.
- Litsa Stafilidis, for her sponsorship of Holy Saturday morning, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves, in loving memory of Lambrini Stafilidis.
- Christina Thomas, for her sponsorship of Holy Saturday morning, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves, in loving memory of Speros and Ute Thomas.
- Anonymous, for sponsorship of Holy Saturday morning, April 11, 2026: Bay Leaves, in loving memory of his departed loved one.
- Diane Sioutis, for her sponsorship of Holy Saturday, April 11, 2026: Resurrection Icon (#1), for the well-being of her family.
- Anonymous, for sponsorship of Holy Saturday, April 11, 2026: Resurrection floral.
- Anastasia Stoios, for her sponsorship of Holy Saturday, April 11, 2026: Resurrection icon (#2), for the well-being of her family.
- Maria Scavitto, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in honor of Eleni Evangelopoulos.
- Carnation Karros, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, for the well-being of the Parastatidis and Karros Families.
- Christine and Mark Turner, for their Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of Robert Turner and James & Politeme Mandris.
- Anonymous, for their Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of their departed loved ones.
- Janine McCartney, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of: The Perzsel and Tatigikis Families.
- Katherine Kennedy, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of Evlambia Peters.
- Niki Tsetsekos, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, for the well-being of her family.
- Nia Lena Caravasos, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, for the well-being of Maria (Mary) Caravasos.

- Georgia Sioutis, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of Lefki & John.
- Nia Lena Caravazos, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of Nikolaos (Nick) Caravazos.
- Valerie Langmayer, for her Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in honor of the Koukos and Langmayer Families.
- Anonymous, for Holy Week & Easter flower donation, in loving memory of his departed loved one.
- Gregg Poryzees, for his sponsorship of Sunday, April 26: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women Icon, in loving memory of Lambrini Stafilidis.
- Anonymous, for sponsorship of Sunday, April 26: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women floral, for the well-being of her and her loved one.

Upcoming sponsorship opportunities include:

Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup> – Holy Ascension & Sts Constantine & Helen

Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> – Holy Pentecost

If you would like to sponsor an icon, you may pay: online through the Philoptochos website; simply scan the QR code below with your phone; or mail your payment to the church and include the words 'icon sponsorship' on your envelope. **If you are paying by check, please make the check out to “Ladies Philoptochos of St. Luke”.** Please contact Niki Tsetsekos at 610-500-3056 or ntsetsekos@gmail.com if you have any questions.



**Philoptochos Store**

Find a unique gift for a loved one or the bride & groom to-be!

@stlukephiloptochos.org

Scan the QR code to visit the Philoptochos Store



We are excited to announce that on **Sunday, June 7**, the graduates of the **Class of 2026** will gather to be recognized for their accomplishments and hard-earned degrees. If you have a graduate in your family, please complete the form on <https://www.st-luke.org> or Scan the QRC below. If you do not have access to the online form, you can mail the form below to:

**35 N. Malin Road, Broomall, PA 19008** or email complete information from this form to committee at [saintlukegradsunday@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukegradsunday@gmail.com). The deadline for submitting the form is **Saturday, May 30, 2026**

Graduate's Name (As you would like it to appear in the program)	
Graduate's Email Address and Mobile Number	
Name of High School, University/College awarding diploma	
Diploma: High School, Bachelor, Master's, or Doctorate	
Major(s)/Concentration	
Future Plan (Name of University/College and intended studies)	
Name of the person submitting the Graduate's name	
Telephone number and email of the person submitting the graduate's name	
Name of Orthodox parish Graduate is attending	
Will the graduate attending in person Sunday, June 7, 2026?	Y or N



You are encouraged to reproduce and distribute this schedule to all Hellenes and Philhellenes.

## 2026 GREEK FESTIVAL GUIDE OF PHILADELPHIA (PA, NJ, DE)

Courtesy of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Media, PA  
Dedicated to the Memory of Marika Papouris Tzizonis

CHURCH	LOCATION—INFO	DATES	HOURS	CHURCH	LOCATION - INFO	DATES	HOURS
ST. ANTHONY Vineland, NJ	430 W. Wheat Rd. Vineland, NJ 856-696-0917 stanthonyvinelandnj.com	May 29 - 31	Fri: 5 pm - 10 pm Sat: 12 pm - 11 pm Sun: 12 pm - 6 pm	EVANGELISMOS OF THE OTOKOS Philadelphia, PA	6501 Bustleton Ave. Philadelphia, PA 215-743-7982	June 4 - 7	Thurs: 1 pm - 10 pm Fri & Sat: 12 noon - 11 pm Sun: 12 noon - 9 pm
ST. NICHOLAS Atlantic City, NJ	13 S. Mount Vernon Ave. Mt. Vernon & Atlantic Ave. Atlantic City, NJ (609) 348-3495	May 23	Spring Cookout Lamb-Drinks-Music 5:00pm - 12am(midnight)	ST. LUKE Broomall, PA	35 N. Malin Rd. Broomall, PA 610-353-1592 thegreekfaith.com	Sept 18 - 20	Fri: 4 pm - 10 pm Sat: 11 am - 10 pm Sun: 12 pm - 8 pm
ST. DEMETRIOS North Wildwood, NJ	321 St. Demetrios Street North Wildwood, NJ 609-522-0152		<i>Call church office or check website for dates and hours</i>	ST. GEORGE Media, PA	30 E. Forge Rd. Media, PA 610-459-0366 tastiofgreece.net	Sept 24 - 27	Thurs: 3 pm - 9 pm Fri & Sat: 11 am - 10 pm Sun: 11 am - 8 pm
ST. DEMETRIOS Upper Darby, PA	229 Powell Ln. Upper Darby, PA 610-352-7212 saintdemetrios.org	May 14 - 17	Thurs thru Sun: 12 pm - 9 pm	ST. BARBARA Toms River, NJ	2200 Church Rd. Toms River, NJ 732-255-5525 sibarbaranj.org	Sept 25 - 27	Fri & Sat: 12 Noon - 11 pm Sun: 12 Noon - 6 pm
ANNUNCIATION/ EVANGELISMOS Elkins Park, PA	7921 Old York Rd. Elkins Park, PA 215-635-0316 opagreekfestival.com	May 7 - 10	Thurs: 4 pm-10 pm Fri & Sat: 11am-10 pm Sun: 11 am-8 pm	ST. THOMAS Cherry Hill, NJ	615 Mercer St. Cherry Hill, NJ 856-665-1731 greekgatorfestival.com	Oct 8 - 11	Thurs thru Sun: 11 am - 12 am (midnight)
ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL Philadelphia, PA	256 S. 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Philadelphia, PA 215-627-4389 saintgeorgecathedral.org	May 28 - 31	Thurs & Sun: 11am-8pm Fri & Sat: 11am-11pm				
ST. SOPHIA Jeffersonville, PA	900 S. Trooper Rd. Jeffersonville, PA 610-650-8960 saintsophiachurch.org	May 28 - 31	Indoor restaurant: Thurs thru Sat: 11 am - 8 pm Sun: 12 noon - 7 pm Tent opens: Fri, 5/29 -- 5 pm Sat, 5/30 -- 11 am-8 pm Sun, 5/31 -- 12 pm-7 pm	ST. GEORGE CATHEDRAL Philadelphia, PA	256 S. 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Philadelphia, PA 215-627-4389 saintgeorgecathedral.org	TBD	
HOLY TRINITY Egg Harbor, NJ	7004 Ridge Ave. Egg Harbor Township, NJ 609-653-8092 holyltrinityeggharbor.com	June 4 - 7	Thurs & Fri: 5 pm - 10 pm Sat: 12 noon - 11 pm Sun: 12-9pm	ST. DEMETRIOS Upper Darby, PA	229 Powell Ln. Upper Darby, PA 610-352-7212 saintdemetrios.org	Nov 6 - 8	Fri thru Sun 12pm - 9 pm
HOLY TRINITY Wilmington, DE	808 North Broom St. Wilmington, DE 302-654-4446 greekfestde.com holyltrinitywilmington.org	June 1 - 6	Mon thru Sat: 11 am - 11 pm	ST. SOPHIA Jeffersonville, PA	900 S. Trooper Rd. Jeffersonville, PA 610-650-8960 saintsophiachurch.org	Nov 13 - 15	<u>Craft Fair &amp; Food Festival</u> Fri & Sat: 11 am - 8 pm Sun: 12 noon - 6 pm

**UPDATED  
ON 3/29/2026**

# GO GREEN?

For your convenience, our monthly bulletin,

*The Epistle* is now online and can be accessed by visiting the church website

**[www.st-luke.org](http://www.st-luke.org)**

Just click on “Monthly Epistle”. If you would like to receive the Epistle in this digital format only and not by mail, please email our Office Manager:

**[stlukeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stlukeoffice@gmail.com) or call (610) 353-1592**

**St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church  
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