

THE EPISTLE

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church

35 North Malin Road

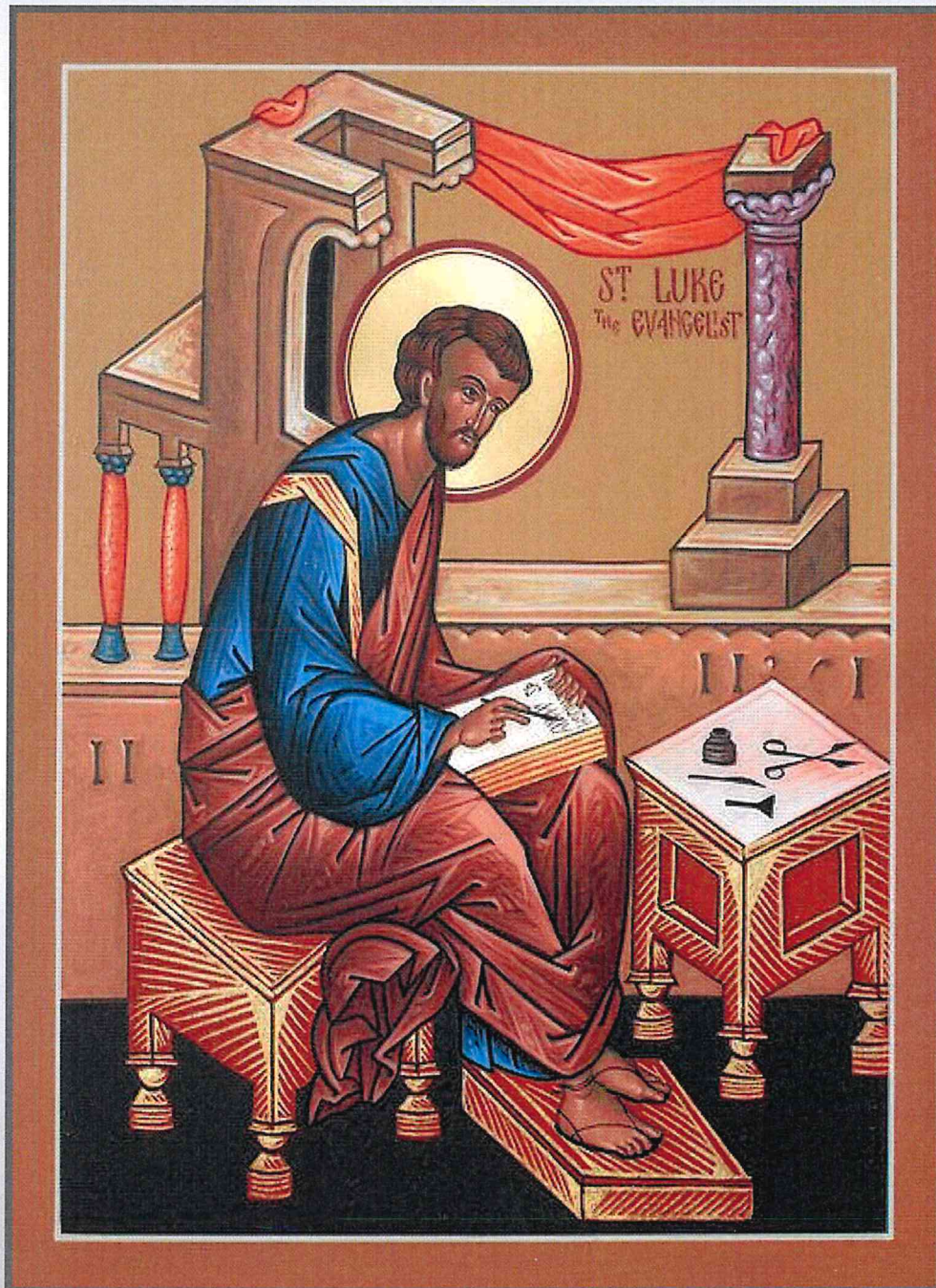
Broomall, PA 19008

Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

(610) 353-1592

www.st-luke.org

JUNE 2025



ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE ABOUT THE HOLY APOSTLES

At this time of the year when we commemorate and honor the Holy Apostles chosen by our Lord Jesus Christ to continue His ministry and establish His Church, it is important for us to reflect upon the Apostolic nature of the Church, and more specifically upon our Apostolic identity as Christians. We know and affirm that we belong to "One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church," for the Apostles were sent by Christ to be His witnesses and gather communities of believers "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Certainly we know that our relationship with the Apostles is rooted in the existence, perpetuation, and practices of the Church. However, we must also understand that this relationship includes our acceptance and continuation of their work, their message, their Apostolic identity.

This identity and its attribution to all people of faith is presented to us in Scripture by Christ himself. As our Lord was about to face His Passion, He withdrew to a quiet place to pray to the Father. As recorded in the seventeenth chapter of the Gospel of John, our Lord prayed fervently for His disciples and for all those who would believe in Him through their testimony. His prayer revealed His love for His followers and for us, those who would receive the Gospel through the witness of others. The Lord's prayer before His Passion also offers to us a beautiful exposition of what it means to be an Apostle.

First, Christ affirms the faithfulness of those given to Him to assist Him in His sacred ministry. He states, "They were yours, You gave them to me, and they have kept Your word" (John 17:6). While at times the Apostles did not understand the divine plan and will of God in accomplishing salvation, they remained faithful to the Lord, following Him during His earthly ministry, listening to His words, experiencing the power of God healing, forgiving, transforming, and saving. And yes, even though they scattered in fear at the time of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion, our Lord brought them together again, their faith was renewed and strengthened, and they remained committed to the work of His kingdom.

Second, Christ affirmed the Apostles' recognition of who He is. "They have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me" (17:8). Indeed, the Apostles had recognized who Christ was, as Master, Teacher, Messiah, Son of the Living God; and in doing so they had given up their occupations and possessions to follow Him. Through their abandonment of the things of the world and their willingness to serve God, Christ himself said, "I am glorified in them" (17:10).

Third, Christ prayed "that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves" (17:13). This was a joy that filled their hearts when the power of God was revealed through the ministry of Christ. It was a joy that was experienced as their souls were nourished and their minds opened by the wisdom of the Son of God. It was an enduring joy that was rooted deep

within them at the sight of the Risen Lord, giving them the power and strength to face persecution and even death for the sake of the Gospel.

Fourth, in His prayer Christ asked the Father to "Sanctify them in Your truth" (17:17). After three years of service with Jesus, partaking of His teaching and counsel daily, the minds and hearts of the Apostles were filled with truth; and this truth transformed their lives, sanctifying them in the holiness of God. Being filled with the truth, they preached the truth, they offered a witness of the truth before governors and kings, they died for the truth, and the truth freed them from sin into eternal life and communion with God.

Finally, as Christ was sent into the world by the Father, so He too sent His Apostles into the world (17:18). They were given a divine commission, to go and preach the Gospel and baptize in all of the nations of the earth. Their authority rested in God alone, thus they were sent not only by the one who had accomplished our salvation, but who was the Creator of the Universe, and the one who would consummate time and history in His divine plan. They were sent with the power and presence of Christ to bring His message of grace to all people.

We deeply honor the Holy Apostles, especially on the occasion of their feast. However, we must honor them not only in words and hymns, but with our lives. As Christians we follow in a direct lineage of faith from these original disciples of Jesus Christ, and we have inherited an Apostolic identity by which we continue the work of our Lord and His Church. As the Apostles were faithful to Christ, we are called to be faithful to Him in all areas of our lives, submitting to His Lordship and holy will. Just as they recognized Him as Master, Teacher, and the Son of God, our lives should be a living testimony to the presence and person of Christ. As they received true and enduring joy through the ministry and words of Christ, so too are we offered this joy so that our hearts and minds may be strengthened in the faith and made whole. As they were sanctified by the truth, this same truth is available to each of us so that our lives may be made holy and our words and deeds may lead others to salvation. And as He sent His Apostles into the world to be witnesses of the faith, so too are we sent by Him to offer the Gospel to all people, in our neighborhoods, cities, nations, and to the ends of the earth.

This is our Apostolic identity. Our association with the Holy Apostles is not merely one of words, but it is an identity that embodies all that we are called by Christ to be in this world and in the kingdom to come. Let us strive to emulate the Holy Apostles so that Christ may be glorified in us through our life and our witness.

+DEMETRIOS

Former Archbishop of America

PARISH LIFE

Weddings

Demetrios Pappas & Zara Khatchadrian were united in Holy Matrimony on May 11, 2025. **Efstathios Steve Pilidis** stood by their side as the sponsor and the witness was **Christina Papatsiarias**.



Joseph Dicarlantonio III & Laura Niser were united in Holy Matrimony on May 25, 2025. **Theodora Small** stood by their side as the sponsor and the witness was **Sean Small**.

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

Forty-Day Blessings



On May 18, 2025, Father Christ offered the Forty Day Blessing for **Sophronios Vasilis Sariyanidi**. Congratulations to **Evangelos Sariyanidi & Madeleine Le Bouteiller** as we anticipate the Baptism!

Baptisms & Chrismations

The daughter of **Adam & Demetra Dempsey** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on May 18, 2025. Her sponsor, **Vasilios Fragogianis**, baptized her with the name *Paraskevi Anna*. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Evianna Maria Dempsey**.



Funerals



Vasilios Vasiliadis fell asleep in the Lord on April 30, 2025. His funeral service was held on May 6, 2025.

We extend our condolences and prayers to his family. MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL.

Stewardship Corner

St. Luke gives us so much—
friendships, spiritual guidance, community, education, and meaningful traditions.
We have been blessed and fortunate to have Father Christ
leading our community for many years.

He has been an amazing leader, tirelessly encouraging us,
strengthening our faith and keeping the St. Luke spirit alive.
He challenges us to grow as Christians while reminding us to stay humble and kind.

No gift is too small, and every contribution matters.
Whether you volunteer, donate, or invite a friend or loved one
to experience the many services St. Luke offers, these are all acts of stewardship.
Sharing your light with others through these actions
helps strengthen our community and our faith.

Warm Regards, Niki Thompson

Temperature for St. Luke Stewardship



Thank you to all who have pledged for 2025 to date.

If you have not, feel free to go to our website,
use the QR Code, or text STLUKEGIVE to 73256.

If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Stewardship,
please reach out to the Stewardship Committee directly stlukegiving@gmail.com



<https://onrealm.org/stluke>

June 2025 Ecclesiastical Calendar

Sunday, June 1st

Fathers of the 1st Council

Justin the Martyr; Pyrros the Hieromartyr

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

Saturday, June 7th

Saturday of Souls

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

Sunday, June 8th

Holy Pentecost

Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria; 3 Virgin-martyrs of Chios

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

Sunday, June 15th

The Sunday of All Saints

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

Sunday, June 22nd

2nd Sunday of Matthew

Eusebius, Bishop of Samosata; Zenon & his servant Zenas

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

Sunday, June 29th

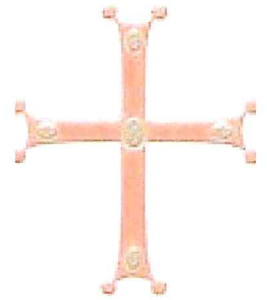
Peter and Paul, The Holy Apostles

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

Monday, June 30th

Synaxis of the Holy Apostles

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



JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>1</div>  <p>11:30am Philoptochos Graduate Sunday Program & Reception</p>	<div>2</div> <p>4:30pm FTIN Cooking 6pm Baking Prep 7pm Parish Council Meeting</p>	<div>3</div> <p>10am Baking 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School</p>	<div>4</div> <p>6:30pm Philoptochos General Assembly</p>	<div>5</div> <p>9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men</p>	<div>6</div> <p>10am Senior Men</p>	<div>7</div>
<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <p>6pm Baking Prep</p>	<div>10</div> <p>10am Baking 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 8pm Adult Volleyball</p>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <p>9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men</p>	<div>13</div> <p>10am Senior Men</p>	<div>14</div>
<div>15</div>  <p>11:30am Father's Day Reception</p>	<div>16</div> <p>10am Baking</p> <p><i>Philoptochos – Indoor Yard Sale (set-up)</i></p>	<div>17</div> <p>10am Baking 10am Senior Men</p> <p><i>Philoptochos – Indoor Yard Sale (set-up)</i></p>	<div>18</div> <p><i>Philoptochos – Indoor Yard Sale (set-up)</i></p>	<div>19</div> <p>9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men</p> <p><i>Philoptochos – Indoor Yard Sale (set-up)</i></p>	<div>20</div>  <p>9am Yard Sale 10am Senior Men</p>	<div>21</div>  <p>9am Yard Sale</p>
<div>22</div>  <p>12pm Yard Sale</p>	<div>23</div> <p><i>Philoptochos – Indoor Yard Sale (clean-up)</i></p>	<div>24</div> <p>10am Baking 8pm Adult Volleyball</p>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <p>9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men</p>	<div>27</div> <p>10am Senior Men</p>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div> <p>11am Sunday School</p>	<div>30</div>					



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

REGISTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Register your email address online at 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.



διακονία

Diakonia is looking for Volunteers

The Diakonia Ministry is a group of volunteers who help with the Sunday Liturgy. On occasional Sundays, the main responsibilities include greeting parishioners as they arrive, passing trays, handing out bulletins and other small details on Sunday mornings.

This program was developed so that parishioners can volunteer to help the community. No experience is necessary! This is a great opportunity to serve the church and connect with other parishioners.

This is not a weekly commitment.

We would greatly appreciate any volunteers who can spare some time to support the Diakonia. If you're available and interested in helping, please contact Tom Trantas at, tomisgreek@yahoo.com or 610.203.1132.

Diakonia Schedule

Date	On Duty	On Duty
June 1	Tom Trantas	Anna Trantas
June 8	Anna Hadgis	Maria Carafides
Father's Day - June 15	Linda Lemperes	Barbara Papageorge



JUN:	Chairs:	Diana Palumbo	Betsy Pappas
1-Jun	Virginia Kyriakatos	Fay Kouroutzidis	Tanya Utrisky
8-Jun	Denise F. Rodgers	Magdaline Intzes	Mary Mallas
15-Jun	FATHER'S DAY	FATHER'S DAY	FATHER'S DAY

**If you cannot make assigned date, you are responsible for finding a replacement*

Coffee Hour Chairs:

Diana Palumbo – lovetocook1219@aol.com

Betsy Pappas – vasilikipappas@yahoo.com



2025 GREEK AFFAIR IS SEPTEMBER 19, 20 & 21

Greek Affair is our major fundraiser with the proceeds benefitting the maintenance and enhancement of our facilities and ministries.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Even if you are not a baker, there are still various ways you can contribute. Your help and participation play a vital role in the preparation of our mouthwatering pastries. It is a great way to help our church, have fun and enjoy great fellowship. Once again, we ask that you, as good stewards of our beloved St. Luke, volunteer your time and talent to prepare the delicious pastries for which our festival is known.

All are welcome ...mothers, daughters, husbands, fathers and sons. We promise a good time and you will leave with something more valuable: the feeling of good will, being part of the embrace of our beloved St. Luke Community.

GREEK AFFAIR BAKING CHAIRS

Diane Sioutis dianesioutis@yahoo.com

Karen Kotapka mkotapka@aol.com

Maria Carafides mcarafides@gmail.com

2025 GREEK AFFAIR BAKING SCHEDULE - *All Sessions Begin at 10:00am*

<u>PASTRY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHAIRS</u>
TYROPITAS	Tuesday June 3 rd	Maria Carafides Eugenia Gekas
KARIDOPITA /REVANI	Tuesday June 10 th	Diane Sioutis Karen Kotapka
TSOUREKIA	Monday June 16 th	Diana Sioutis Katina Dollos
TSOUREKIA	Tuesday June 17 th	Karen Kotapka
KOURABIEDES	September TBA	Angelique Demetris

For Those in Need... you may ask, “What are we doing lately?”

JUNE, 2025 *Epistle*

For Those In Need (FTIN) helps in St. Luke's outreach to the community, offering basic 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 and others in need.

During May's Cook FTIN's volunteer Chefs prepared some 165 evening meals for our partners at The Life Center (TLC) and the Salvation Army; thanks to all those FTIN volunteer Chefs who turned out. As a special bonus, TLC was most appreciative of receiving 4 hams that arrived following the completion of our **Ham Drive**.

And later in the month, the generosity of Philoptochos enabled FTIN to deliver a platter of chicken with rice and pantry staples following their Havana Nights Bid 'n Buy event to The Life Center..

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 (next delivery on Tuesday, JUN 10th).

FTIN's **June Cook** will take place on Monday evening, **June 2nd** beginning at **4:30pm**.

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. Checks (payable to “For Those In Need”) may be mailed to the parish office.

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

Alan Pcsolyar at: apcsolyar@comcast.net or 610-457-6033

Saint Luke Greek Folk Dance Groups

Our St. Luke Greek Folk Dance Troupes have certainly had a busy and successful year!

- **September:** St Luke's Greek Affair for two days of performances by Ellinakia and Olympians
- **December:** Ellinakia and Olympian Christmas performances for family and friends
- **January:** Thanks to fundraising and the support of Andrew Papageorge and the Parish Council along with Father Christ, we were able to order 12 new costumes from the region of Epirus for our expanding Olympian dance group!
- **February:** Year #1 of the Music and Dance Festival held in Philadelphia. In their very first competition ever, Ellinakia took the **Second Place Award** in the Primary Division!
The Olympians earned the **Choral Award** in their dance division and took home the **First Place Award** in the Advanced Intermediate Division!
- **February:** Ellinakia performance at the St. Luke Apokriatiko Glendi
- **April:** Ellinakia and Olympians marched in the Greek Independence Day Parade
- **May:** We held our first Adult Greek Dance Workshop fundraiser in support of our dance groups.
- **May:** Ellinakia and Olympian End of Year Performance for the congregation during Coffee Hour.

May was especially exciting for our dance groups! For the first time, we hosted an **Adult Greek Dance Workshop fundraiser**. It was a great success and very well received within our St. Luke community while also drawing interest from neighboring parishes. Thank you to all of our dance instructors who supported the event, and especially Christos Yiantsos, Katerina Giovanopoulos, Antonia Karasavas, and Evan Palmieri who showed such kindness and patience as they taught our eager group of adult dancers!

Also in May, we were proud to perform during Sunday Coffee Hour for our St. Luke Congregation. During that afternoon, **Peter and Fotini Kathopoulis donated a fabulous Mediterranean dinner basket which was raffled off to benefit our dance groups!** Thank you Peter and Fotini, as well as Kally Sioutis and Carla Botos who helped sell raffle tickets!



Of course, we would be nothing without our amazing instructors who so faithfully share their talent and expertise with our youth each week. **A huge THANK YOU to Christos Yiantsos, Evan Palmieri, and Katerina Giovanopoulos who teach the Olympians, and Antonia Karasavas, Marilena Ristas, and Christina Flamporis who teach the Ellinakia!**

We're grateful to our parents and families for your support and involvement in our Greek Dance Program at St. Luke! We look forward to seeing you all again when dance practice resumes in late August in preparation for our performances at the St. Luke Greek Affair on September 19th and 20th!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Taverna Night

WITH MEZEDES, DRINKS AND DANCING
MUSIC AND SINGING WITH
ELEANNA FINIKALIOTI, GEORGE LIRISTIS AND
YIANNIS KYRIAZIS

Saturday November 1st at 7pm
St Luke Community Center
Tickets \$50



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St. Luke Greek School

There was a lot of activity at Greek School this past month. Students had the opportunity to experience a Greek market and use their Greek skills to shop for items! A selection of Greek school students recited Mother's Day poems in church. The students had their final exams for the school year, with their teachers preparing report cards and holding conferences with parents.

The annual Greek School field trip was to Citizens Bank Park to see our Philadelphia Phillies play cross state rivals, the Pittsburgh Pirates on May 16th. We had a great group of students and families and had a great night!

A heartfelt thanks to the teachers, helpers and PTO members who worked tirelessly to provide a fun educational experience for the Greek School students! The students' language skills and cultural knowledge grow every year they participate in the program.

Upcoming events:

June 3: Closing program and family dinner

June 15: Father's Day poems in church

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

June 2025

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

With Grateful Hearts - We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our generous donors from Westgate Pub in Havertown—Pete and Sophia Alexopoulos and the Raptis family—for the delicious Lenten lunch provided on Lazarus Saturday for all who helped fold palm crosses. A special thank you as well to Valley Forge Flowers and the King family for donating rose petals, beautifully used by our Myrrh-bearers on Holy Friday. May God bless each of you for your kindness and support.

Celebrating Our Sunday School Heroes - We joyfully recognize our devoted and inspiring Sunday School teachers—our everyday superheroes—for their unwavering commitment to guiding our children in the teachings and spirit of the Greek Orthodox faith. Their dedication extends far beyond Sunday mornings, encompassing lesson preparation and spiritual mentoring throughout the week. We are truly grateful for their ministry and the nurturing presence they provide in God's house.

Our 2024–2025 Teaching Staff:

<i>Grade Level</i>	<i>Sunday School Teacher(s)</i>
3-year-olds	Lisa Palmieri and Kathy Zarvalas
Pre-K	Faithe Kalisperis and Marinela Tsapournas
Kindergarten	Marilena Ristas
1st	Thomas Ristas and Nysia Petrakis
2nd	Eleni Kornblatt
3rd	Sophia Tsakiris
4th	Marina Despotopoulou
5th	Sophia Milinkovic
6th	Carnation Karros
7th & 8th	Arthur Karros
9th & 10th	Peter Pavlis
11th & 12th	Danny Milinkovic and Evan Palmieri
Substitutes	Jen Kyriakodis, Georgia Vlahos, and Soula Arcidiacono, Alexis Limberakis
<i>New Teachers 2025-2026</i>	<i>YOUR NAME HERE</i>

- We also honor the many dedicated teachers and directors who came before us. Thank you for laying the foundation upon which this program continues to grow. Χρόνια Πολλά!

Join Our Team! - As we plan for the upcoming year, we hope to expand our teaching team by placing two adults, one lead teacher and one assistant—in every classroom. If you are feeling called to serve, we welcome you to join this fulfilling ministry. You will find that the spiritual rewards are just as meaningful for teachers as they are for the students.

Looking Back: A Year of Faith in Action - Highlights from our 2024–2025 Sunday School Year:

Fundraisers & Donations

- Backpack Fundraiser (with FOCUS North America)
 - July–August 2024
 - July–August 2025 **this summer*
- Thanksgiving Supplies for PICC Women
 - October–November 2024
- Lenten Season Donations
 - March–April 2025: Coordinated donations of flowers for the weekly Lenten Salutation Services

Youth Engagement & Education

- Spark Sunday Sessions (Grades 6–12)
 - September 2024–May 2025: *Hosted and taught monthly sessions on topics that our students come across daily in school. All discussions, regardless of the topic, are viewed through an Orthodox lens so our students understand how the Orthodox faith provides us guidance to remain strong in our faith.*
- Oratorical Festival (St. John Chrysostom)
 - January–April 2025: *The St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, hosted by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, serves as a nationwide ministry that aims to foster faith, education, and fellowship among Greek Orthodox teenagers. It provides a platform for students in grades 7-12 to write and present speeches on topics related to their faith, the Church, and Orthodox traditions. The festival also helps students hone their public speaking and speech writing skills. We sponsored a parish-level event, recruited and mentored speakers, and supported advancement to higher levels*

Liturgical Involvement

- Weekly Readers Coordination
 - September 2024–May 2025: *Identified and organized Epistle and Communion Prayer readers for each Sunday of the school year.*
- Lenten Services Participation
 - March–April 2025:
 - *Coordinated Psalm readers for Salutation Services*
 - *Coordinated flower donations*
- Holy Week Activities
 - April 12, 2025 (Lazarus Saturday): *Hosted lunch for our Sunday School families, along with helping guide students and their parents fold over fifteen hundred palms for Palm Sunday Liturgy.*
 - April 18, 2025 (Holy Friday):
 - *Created and coordinated the Holy Friday Helpers Retreat. Students of all grades work to help decorate the Epitaphion, our GOYANS continued by helping prep candles for the Holy*

Friday Lamentations Service while our younger students made a beautiful craft celebrating the Anastasi. Finally, all students spent a considerable amount of time outside with Father Christ, discussing the Passion of Christ and other Lenten topics.

- April 18–19, 2025: *Recruited Myrrh-bearers for the Holy Friday and Holy Saturday services, practiced with both groups, and dressed and prepared the Myrrh-bearers for their part in each of the services. The role of our beloved Myrrh-bearers is so special not, just for women, but as part of Paschal celebrations of the Orthodox Church.*
- April 20, 2025 (Pascha): *Identified and organized readers for the Agape Gospel in multiple languages*
- Mother's & Father's Day Celebrations
 - May–June 2025: Provided poem readers

Seasonal & Special Events

- Christmas Pageant
 - December 2024: *Sponsored and supported the event under the direction of our incredible pageant director, Mrs. Faithe Kalisperis.*
- Godparents Sunday
 - February–March 2025: *Created and distributed invitations to all Sunday School students so that they could decorate/color them if they wished to do so and then mail them home to their Nounos and Nounas.*
- Pre-Lenten Monastery Trip
 - March 2025: *Organized trip to Holy Protection Monastery*

Seeking Readers for Father's Day Poems

We are currently looking for 3 student volunteers to read poems during Divine Liturgy in honor of the fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and uncles of our community on Sunday, June 15, 2025. To volunteer, please email us at: stlukesundayschool@gmail.com

Faith Doesn't Take a Summer Vacation

Looking to nurture your child's faith over the summer? Whether by the pool or at the beach, these sites offer excellent Orthodox books for children and teens:

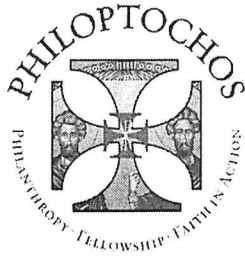
- <https://store.ancientfaith.com/childrens-books-and-gifts/>
- <https://store.ancientfaith.com/young-adult-books/>
- <https://www.drawneardesigns.com/books>
- <https://potamitis.us/>

Summer Epistle and Prayer Readers Needed

Even during summer break, we encourage your children to participate in Divine Liturgy by reading the Epistle or Communion Prayer. We'll provide the readings in advance, so they have plenty of time to practice.

Stay in Touch

Have questions or want more resources? Visit our website at: <https://www.ss.st-luke.org>
Or reach out anytime at: stlukesundayschool@gmail.com



Philoptochos Society News

SAVE THE DATES

Graduates' Sunday Program and Reception - Sunday, June 1, 2025

General Assembly Meeting - Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Indoor Yard Sale

Collection: May 12- June 16

Yard Sale dates: June 20-22, 2025

Summer Coffee Hour- Begins: Sunday, June 22, 2025

General Assembly Meeting- Our final General Assembly meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, June 4th at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. We'll begin the evening with a brief presentation by the founder and president of *Grands Stepping Up*, a nonprofit organization we've proudly supported for several years.

During the meeting, **elections will be held for our 2025–2027 Board of Directors**. Please plan to attend and vote! To qualify for the privilege to vote, you should be a member in good standing. Please check with Kia Blazakis if you are not sure of your stewardship status.

Fifty Year Honorees- On Sunday, May 11th, Mother's Day, we honored the women of our Philoptochos who have dedicated 50 years or more to the works and ideals of our important ministry. They have done so with love for our Church and compassion for those less fortunate. Their commitment over the years has been an inspiration to generations who have followed; we respect and appreciate each of them.

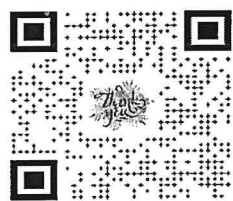
The honorees were each presented with a corsage, and they and their families were escorted to pews designated just for them. Lisa Palmieri gave a heartfelt tribute and, along with Father Christ, presented them with certificates of recognition. Their special day continued at the Mother's Day Luncheon where the ladies received many congratulations from their St Luke family. May God continue to bestow his blessings upon these beloved stewards of Philoptochos. Αξίεσ!

65 Years: Katherine Chletcos, Georgette Liadis, Anne Trivelis* Anastasia Ververelli
 64 Years: Athina Gumas
 63 Years: Maria Gumas, Virginia Kyriakatos*
 62 Years: Chrisanthe Corialos, Mary Mallas*
 61 Years: Effie Liacouras
 59 Years: Chrisanthi Katsanos*
 57 Years: Sophie Mantakounis*
 56 Years: Kiki Stathis
 54 Years: Fay Kouroutzidis, Mary Zafiropoulos*
 53 Years: Demetra Karras, Linda Lemperes, Carol Leon
 52 Years: Alexandra Kokonos, Terry Lacas*
 51 Years: Diane Sioutis*
 50 Years: Eleftheria (Ellie) Bamihos, Katherine Geaneotes, Mary Missiras

**Denotes Past President*

Lisa would like to thank Effie Guthrie, Carnation Karros, Katherine Kennedy, Toula Nikolos, Diana Palumbo, Andrew Papageorge, Betsy Pappas, and Deme Peters for their various contributions to this lovely day!

2025 Annual Bid 'n Buy- Christ is Risen! Χριστός Ανέστη! On behalf of the St. Luke Ladies Philoptochos, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended this year's Havana Night's Bid 'n Buy. Your presence and generosity made the evening truly unforgettable, and we are incredibly grateful for your support! A sincere "Thank you" to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this year's Havana Nights Bid 'n Buy a HUGE success! Our 360 guests and 55 volunteers traveled through a tropical paradise! They enjoyed a Night in Havana with a mojito in hand! There were 250 beautiful prizes up for grabs for our



guests to win. It was a fun-filled, festive evening for all. We had many sponsors and donors who helped defray our costs, and we thank them for their continued support! The proceeds of the Bid 'n Buy support the mission of the Ladies Philoptochos Society of St. Luke to promote charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic outreach, to preserve the sanctity of life and

family, and to perpetuate and to promote our Orthodox faith and traditions. *Save the Date for next year...May 7, 2026!* QR Code to enjoy our Havana Nights Bid 'n Buy photo album.

Coffee Hour Volunteers- The coffee hour schedule for volunteers may be found elsewhere in this Epistle. Please look for your name and, hopefully, you will be able to come and work with us on the day you have been assigned. If you are not able to make it on that day, please find someone to take your place. Volunteers are expected to stay until the end of the coffee hour for clean-up. We thank you all for your help. Betsy Pappas and Diana Palumbo, Chairladies

Summer Coffee Hour- The Summer Coffee Hour schedule begins on June 22, 2025, and runs through the month of August in the Social Hall. Parishioners are invited to bring goodies to share with fellow parishioners. We also ask you to reach out to Dee Karras or Alexandra Perrot if you can volunteer your help on **any** of the summer Sundays. Thank you!

Graduates' Sunday Program and Reception- We are excited to announce that on Sunday, June 1, 2025, the graduates of the Class of 2025 will come together in person to be recognized for their accomplishments and hard-earned degrees. During the event, Father Christ will provide the Special Blessing to the Graduates, a Guest Speaker will address the graduates, and the scholarship recipients will be announced. For the Graduates 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 found elsewhere in this Epistle to: 35 N. Malin Road, Broomall, PA 19008 or email complete information from this form to the committee at saintlukegradsunday@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting the form is Saturday, May 24, 2025.



2025 Yard Sale Collection- May 12-June 16, 2025. Please see the lists below of items we DO and DO NOT accept, which are also included in the Yard Sale flyer elsewhere in this Epistle: We DO accept: Housewares; Household Linens; Accessories, Toys & Stuffed Animals; Books in good condition; Luggage. We DO NOT Accept: Large furniture; Electronics or Appliances; Wet, damaged or mildewed items; Records, CDs, VCR tapes; Clothing and Shoes. The Yard Sale will take place on June 20-22, 2025. Please do not drop off items before May 12, 2025. For more information, please contact our Yard Sale Chair, Sandie Liacouras, sliacouras@gmail.com.

Father's Day Luncheon- Please join us in worship and celebrate the fathers of our community on Sunday, June 15th. Our Ladies Philoptochos will host a Father's Day Luncheon following Divine Liturgy in honor of the fathers in our community. We hope you will join us. SignUp Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44AFAC2AA7FEC43-56110369-2025>
Thank you, Beth Ratchford & Lisa Shaiko, Chairpersons

Philoptochos Charity Committee-The Charity Committee received and granted a request for \$1,500.00 from The Arc of Chester County. This donation from our chapter is to support The Arc in their Annual Bubble Walk and Fun Day.

**Information about all Philoptochos Charity activities may be found on the Philoptochos website under the Donate tab.*

2025 Boutiques & Greek Treats "Save the Dates"- Saturday, December 6th & Sunday, December 7th. Interested vendors & volunteers, contact boutiquesgt@gmail.com or the church office at 610-353-1592.

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

Upcoming sponsorship opportunities include:

Sunday, June 8th – Holy Pentecost

Sunday, June 29th – Peter and Paul, The Holy Apostles

Monday, June 30th – Synaxis of the Holy Apostles

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 have any questions, you may contact Niki Tsetsekos at 610-500-3056 or ntsetsekos@gmail.com.

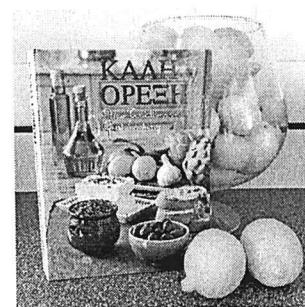


Philoptochos Stewardship 2025- We will continue to accept your stewardship commitments and welcome new members! Your support is *vital* to our effectiveness as a charitable ministry on the local, national, and international levels, and we pray for complete participation of our stewards. The Philoptochos fiscal year began on January 1, 2025. Our stewardship goal was to reach **100%** by April 30, 2025. We have not quite met that goal. Why not cross "pay stewardship" off your to-do list before summer begins?! The minimum requested amount is \$35; an offering over and above will help enhance our ability to serve those in need.

Members, existing or new, may submit their 2025 stewardship by mailing to St Luke Greek Orthodox Church, hand delivering to the church office, visiting us online, or scanning the QR code below. Please note that existing members must be logged onto the website to pay online with the QR Code below. We appreciate those of you who have already fulfilled your 2025 commitment and thank you for your participation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 267.808.4160 or email at kiablazakis@gmail.com.

With Philoptochos love, Kia Blazakis, Membership Chair

Philoptochos Cookbook and Apron- For: experienced cooks looking to perfect their craft; the cooks-in-training who need inspiration; the perfect housewarming or "thank you" gift for teachers, co-workers, employees or friends; the ideal gift for newlyweds and new graduates, or those simply looking to expand their culinary repertoire, *we have just the thing!* Καλή Όρεξη, a Greek Cookbook created by the Ladies Philoptochos of St. Luke (see photo below), and apron. The cost is \$25 for the book and \$15 for the apron (blue only, and with pockets!), plus \$5 for shipping, if applicable. A beautiful gift package, ready for giving, for \$40.00! For more information, or to order, please contact our Philoptochos President, Lisa Palmieri, at president@stlukephiloptochos.org, or Phyllis Roebas, at proebas@gmail.com.



Philoptochos Members- **OUR DIRECTORY IS NOW ONLINE!** Please register with our website www.stlukephiloptochos.org for access to the Members Only Online Directory. Get our APP! For directory access, Philoptochos news & events on the go, use our Membership Toolkit app right from your smartphone.



Paper directories are available by request.



INDOOR YARD SALE COLLECTION

MAY 12-JUNE 16



We DO ACCEPT:

- Housewares in good condition - kitchen, office, garage, decorative items, collectibles
- Linens- blankets, comforters, pillows, curtains, tablecloths, sheets (clean and marked with measurements)
- Toys & Games, stuffed animals, dolls
- Luggage
- Small appliances
- Accessories -handbags, wallets, backpacks
- Books - in good condition
- Jewelry



We DO NOT ACCEPT:

- Large Furniture or mattresses
- Electronics
- Wet, smoke damaged, broken or mildewed items
- Record Albums, VCR Tapes, DVDs
- Clothing and Shoes

**DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED from 9:00 AM to 3:00 Monday to Friday
in the Candy Room next to old Board Room**

Contact info@StlukePhiloptochos.org if you have questions



INDOOR

**YARD
SALE**

HOURS

Friday
9am-3pm
Saturday
9am-3pm
Sunday
12pm-3pm

JUNE 20, 21 & 22

Household goods, toys, collectibles, furniture, books,
jewelry and one-of-a-kind treasures.

-SAVE THE DATE-



St. Luke Golf Classic **Monday, October 13, 2025**

Paxon Hollow Country Club

850 Paxon Hollow Road, Broomall, PA 19008

Registration – 11 AM
Shot Gun Start – 12PM

\$200 - Golf, Lunch, Beer/Soda
Cart, Golfer Gift &
After Party Dinner

\$70 – Dinner Reception Only

Contests Include:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Putting Contest
- 1st, 2nd Place Teams

Registration Deadline – October 1st

Checks Payable to:
St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
Memo: 2025 Golf Outing

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Deadline – October 1st

- Platinum: \$7,000
- After Party: \$6,000
- Gold: \$4,000
- Silver: \$2,000
- Beer/Soda Cart: \$1,000
- Putting Contest: \$500
- Hole Sponsorship: \$250

Contact Demetrios Fragogiannis (610) 637-9775 demetrios326@yahoo.com or
Andrew Papageorge (610) 517-9235 abpapa@comcast.net for more info



ST. LUKE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

35 N. Malin Rd., Broomall, PA, 19008 · Tel: (610) 353-1592
Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

Dear St. Luke Golf Classic Supporter,

On behalf of Fr Christ, we are excited to announce the annual St. Luke Golf Classic in support for St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church in Broomall, PA. The event will be held at Paxon Hollow Golf Club in Broomall on October 13, 2025.

Proceeds from the event will go to benefit the Church and its programs which serve an important role in the local community. St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church needs your help in our effort in consistently striving to live up to the Vision of the Church:

"The Vision of St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church is to be a parish in which we actively connect/participate in the life of the Church of Jesus Christ and grow in faith through worship and education; enrich the life of the parish family through fellowship and love for one another; express our faith and Christ's love through our obligation to offer our time, talent and treasure; and impart, sustain and perpetuate our Christian values and traditions for our children's children."

Come out and join us, your fellow parishioners, and other members of the community for a great day of golf and fun. Know that your support is needed to help our parish continue to grow and flourish.

We would greatly appreciate your support through the donation of a sponsorship or item. If you donate a gift certificate, we request that it does not expire for one year after the date of the event (valid until October 2026).

Donations can be mailed to the address listed on the bottom of the page, or by visiting us at <https://tinyurl.com/StLukeRegistration>.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please call Demetrios Fragogiannis at (610) 637-9775, or e-mail at: demetrios326@yahoo.com; or Andrew Papageorge at (610) 517-9235 or email at: abpapa@comcast.net.

Sincerely,

Demetrios

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church Golf Classic Chairmen
35 N. Malin Rd

www.St-Luke.org



FatherCK@gmail.com

St. Luke Golf Classic



St Luke Greek Orthodox Church
35 N. Malin Rd, Broomall PA 19008



Golfer Registration Form

Paxon Hollow Golf Club
Monday, October 13th, 2025

Registration: 11am
Shotgun Start: 12pm

Register By: October 1st

\$200 - Golf, Lunch, Golfer Gift
& After Party Dinner

\$70 – Dinner Reception Only

Contests Include:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Putting Contest
- 1st & 2nd Place Teams

Golfers Option 1, Complete form below:

*You may be paired with other
golfers if you're not in a foursome*
Golfer 1:

Golfer 2:

Golfer 3:

Golfer 4:

Golfers Option 2: Register Online

<https://tinyurl.com/StLukeRegistration>

For Check payments to: St Luke
in the memo: St Luke Golf

For Credit/Debit/Paypal Payments
<https://tinyurl.com/StLuke2025>

For Questions or more Information Contact:

Demetrios Fragogiannis
(610) 637-9775
demetrios326@yahoo.com

Andrew Papageorge
(610) 517-9235
abpapa@comcast.net

St. Luke Golf Classic



St Luke Greek Orthodox Church Broomall, PA
35 N. Malin Rd, Broomall PA 19008



Sponsor Registration Form

Paxon Hollow Golf Club

Monday, October 13th, 2025

Registration: 11am

Shotgun Start: 12pm

Register By: October 1st

\$200 - Golf, Lunch, Golfer Gift
& After Party Dinner

\$70 – Dinner Reception Only

Contests Include:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Putting Contest
- 1st & 2nd Place Teams

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Platinum: \$7,000

After Party Dinner: \$6,000

Gold: \$4,000

Silver: \$2,000

Beer/Soda Cart: \$1,000

Hole Sponsor: \$250

Sponsorship Deadline: October 1, 2025

Company Sign Name

Contact Name/Phone

Email (for logo)

For Check payments to: St Luke
In the memo: St Luke Golf
For Credit/Debit/Paypal Payments

<https://tinyurl.com/StLuke2025>

**Sponsorship Opportunities can be
made online also at:**

<https://tinyurl.com/StLukeRegistration>

For Questions or more Information Contact:

Demetrios Fragogiannis
(610) 637-9775
demetrios326@yahoo.com

Andrew Papageorge
(610) 517-9235
abpapa@comcast.net

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

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 or call (610) 353-1592

Address service requested

**St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
35 N. Malin Road
Broomall, PA 19008**

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