

Announcements

- ❖ **Please submit your Stewardship Commitment Card for 2015!** Cards are available in the Narthex and the Church Office.
- ❖ Our monthly bulletin, *The Epistle*, is available on the parish website and via email. Visit our website www.saintbarbara.net and sign up if you would like to keep up to date with what is happening in our Parish.

Religious Education

- ❖ **Great Lent begins on Monday, February 23rd!**
- ❖ **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers will be on March 1st at 6 pm at Saint Barbara's.** The guest speaker will be the Reverend Father Simon Thomas. Donations will be accepted for the Building Fund for the Saint Barbara Monastery.
- ❖ **Studies in the Faith, Tuesday, March 3rd, at 6:30 pm in the Orthodox Center!** We will be discussing "Holy Communion: Meaning, Preparation, & Frequency."
- ❖ **Bible Study, Tuesday, March 17th, at 6:30 pm.** We will be continuing our study of the book of Revelation.

Parish Activities

- ❖ Join us for the **39th Annual Mission Awareness Luncheon today**, following the Liturgy, in the Orthodox Center. Please help support the orphanages of India, Guatemala & Albania.
- ❖ **Stewardship Sunday will be on March 8th!** Please mark your calendars to join us for this important presentation.
- ❖ **Capital Campaign Presentation will be Sunday, March 22nd!** Please join us as we introduce our plan to address the needs of the parish.

Outside Activities

- ❖ AHEPA and the Santa Barbara Sister Cities – Patras invite you to an evening of dinner, music and dancing at **The Greek Independence Day Program and Dinner on Saturday, March 21st, at 6:00 pm.** Adults \$25/Students \$10/Under 12 free. For reservations contact Georgia Gastouniotis via email ginagston1@gmail.com or call 805-455-6725.

Project Recognize

The Daughters of Penelope is continuing this project which seeks to recognize women of Hellenic descent, Phil-Hellenes, and DOP who served or currently serve in any branch, or in any capacity of the military. Please forwards names, information and a short bio/story to Valerie Katsikis at Ladyebug3@aol.com no later than February 25th.



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

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Volume XXXIII † Number 8

We welcome you to Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church and are blessed that you have come to our worship service. We hope that this worship experience is both enlightening and inspirational. Each Sunday is the day in which we commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. The Christian Orthodox Church is the Church of the Resurrection and we rejoice in the Lord's triumph over death.

If you are a visitor to our Parish we encourage you to follow the Divine Liturgy book to assist you in following the Liturgy. Please understand that the Christian Orthodox Church does not practice inter-communion with other Christian denominations. Though we may share a common belief in the Holy Trinity, our churches are not yet one in faith and practice. We believe that Holy Communion is not the means to Christian unity but it is in fact the fullest expression of that unity. We fervently pray for this unity as noted in every divine service of the Orthodox Church. Please do not approach for Holy Communion if you are not a baptized/chrisdated Orthodox Christian. Feel free to contact Father Simon if you desire to learn more about the Christian Orthodox Church, the Church of the New Testament.

We would like to remind all Orthodox Christians to be spiritually prepared and in proper canonical standing with the Church in order to partake of the Holy Eucharist.

THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

On this, the 22nd day of the month of February, we commemorate: the finding of the relics of the holy Martyrs in the Quarter of Evgenios, which took place during the reign of Emperor Arcadius; our devout father Athanasios the Confessor of Pavlopetrion; Saint Anthousa and her twelve servants died by the sword; the holy Martyr Synetos died by the sword; our devout fathers Thalassios and Limnaios; the contest of the holy Priest-martyr Telesphoros, Bishop of Rome; our devout father Baradatos. On this day, we remember the expulsion of the first-formed Adam from the Garden of Eden. By Your ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, make us worthy of the delights of Paradise and have mercy, as You alone love mankind. Amen.

Sunday, February 22nd, 2015

Forgiveness Sunday

Hymn for the Resurrection (Fourth Tone)

The women disciples of the Lord heard from the angel, the joyful news of the Resurrection and the repeal of the sentence imposed upon our forefathers. With pride they said to the Apostles, "Death is vanquished, Christ our God is risen bestowing upon the world His great mercy."

Hymn for Saint Barbara (Fourth Tone)

Let us honor Saint Barbara; for the all-modest one prevailed over the snares of the enemy, and was freed from them as a sparrow, with the Cross as aid and weapon.

Kontakion for the Forgiveness Sunday (Sixth Tone)

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

Great Lenten Fast This Week

This week, we begin the fast for Great Lent by abstaining from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil, Monday through Friday. On Saturday and Sunday, wine and oil are permitted.

This Week's Servers

Epistle Readers: Greek: Angelique Chuchas
English: Randy Langel

Ushers: Bill Poulis, Alex Haimanis

Acolytes: Connor Blake, Cainan Iorio, Dean & Dimitri Richardson

Prosfhora: Anna Petronakis

Coffee Hour: Mission Awareness Luncheon

Lenten Services begin February 23rd

Mondays – Great Compline, 6 pm

Wednesdays – Ninth Hour Service, 5:40 pm; Presanctified Liturgy, 6 pm
Lenten Dialogue, 7:30 pm

Fridays – Salutations to the Virgin Mary, 6 pm

Epistle Reading - Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel Reading- Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

St. John Chrysostom on Spiritual Struggle

The day is calling us to get ready for the battle. Do not be afraid at the thought of bearing arms. It is a heavy and distasteful duty when we have to bear a visible suit of armor, but in this case it is desirable and worth it. For the arms we are called to bear are those of the Light!

-Homilies on Romans 24

Coffee Fellowship During Great Lent

Please remember that during Great Lent, no meat products should be served at Coffee Fellowship, and non-dairy options should be provided, for those who are fasting.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, February 22nd, Forgiveness Sunday

- ❖ **Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am**
- ❖ Sunday School/Youth Choir
- ❖ Mission Awareness Luncheon

❖ **Forgiveness Vespers, 6:00 pm**

Monday, February 23rd, Clean Monday

- ❖ **Great Compline, 6:00 pm**

Wednesday, February 25th

- ❖ **Presanctified Liturgy, 6:00 pm**

- ❖ Lenten Dialogue and Meal

Friday, February 27th

- ❖ **1st Salutation to the Virgin Mary, 6:00 pm**

- ❖ Youth Family Night – “Stump the Priest”

Saturday, February 28th, Saturday of Souls

- ❖ **Orthros, 8:00 am; Liturgy, 9:00 am; Memorial Service, 10:00 am**

Sunday, March 1st, Sunday of Orthodoxy

- ❖ **Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am**

- ❖ Sunday School

- ❖ **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, 6:00 pm at St. Barbara's**

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Lenten Dialogues

We have some interesting and dynamic speakers this year for our Lenten Dialogues. Join us for engaging lectures and stay for a light Lenten meal afterwards. If you would like to host a meal for one of the Lenten Dialogues, please contact the Church Office.

February 25th – Speaker: Jackson Kwiatkowski – “The Dedication of the Early Christians”

Meal: Dorothea Lasswell, Angelique Chuchas,
George Papazacharioudakis

March 4th – Speaker: Magdalene Grace Deane – “The History, Symbolism and Technique of Byzantine Iconography”

Meal: Presvytera Stephanie

March 11th – Speaker: Fr. John Finley – “The Veneration of the Cross”

Meal: Host needed

March 18th – Speaker: Fr. Jon Braun

Meal: Host needed

March 25th – Speaker: Alexandra Trigonis

Meal: Host needed

April 1st – Speaker: Fr. Nicholas Speier

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