

Announcements

- ❖ **Please submit your Stewardship Commitment Card for 2015!** Cards are available in the Narthex and the Church Office.
- ❖ Information about **St. Barbara's Scholarship Program** will be in the *April Epistle*. Applications will be available **March 29th** and are due **May 11th**.
- ❖ 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

- ❖ **Bible Study, Tuesday, April 21st, at 6:30 pm.** We will be continuing our study of the book of Revelation.

Parish Activities

- ❖ The **Metropolis Strategic Plan Presentation will be Today, April 19th**, after Liturgy in the Orthodox Center.
- ❖ **Festival Meeting, Thursday, April 23rd, at 6:30 pm** in the Orthodox Center.
- ❖ Please support the **Sunday school** students with their **fundraiser BBQ and Bake Sale to benefit the Rubale School in Tanzania on Sunday, April 29th**, following Liturgy in the Orthodox Center.

Metropolis Activities

- ❖ **Metropolis Clergy-Laity April 27th-28th at St. Nicholas Ranch.** The Clergy Retreat will follow on April 28th-29th.
- ❖ **Summer Camp at St. Nicholas Ranch!** Four sessions to choose from! For more information visit www.gosfyouth.com

Festival Pastry Workshops

SAVE THE DATES & MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

- ❖ Saturday, May 9, 8 a.m. Kourabiedes
- ❖ Saturday, June 13, 8 a.m. Melomacarona
- ❖ Friday, July 24, 1 p.m. Karithopita
- ❖ Saturday, July 25, 1 p.m. Yaourttopita
- ❖ Volunteer for a joyous day of fun, fellowship and baking. Please call Sophia Kenrick at 967-1470

Modified Fast This Week

On Wednesday and Friday of this week, we fast from meat, dairy and fish with wine or oil permitted.



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

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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/christened 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 19th day of the month of April, we commemorate: the holy Priest-martyr Pafnutius; the holy Martyr Theodore, who was in Perga, Pamphylia; the holy woman Martyr Philippa, the mother of Saint Theodore; the holy Martyrs Socrates and Dionysios; our devout father George the Confessor, Bishop of Pissidia; our father among the saints Tryphon, Archbishop of Constantinople, whose Synaxis in his honor is celebrated in the Most Holy Great Church; devout Saint Symeon, one time Abbot of the holy Monastery of Philotheou on Mount Athos, and founder of Holy Trinity Monastery on Mount Phlamurion, known for having only one garment and for going barefoot. On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the dedication of Christ's Resurrection, and Saint Thomas' handling of the Lord's body. By the intercessions of Thomas Your Apostle, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Sunday, April 19th, 2015

Thomas Sunday

*Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death,
and to those in the tombs He has granted life.*

Hymn for Thomas Sunday (Seventh Tone)

Christ our God, You are the Life that dawned from the grave, though the tomb was sealed. Through closed doors You came to the Apostles. You are the Resurrection of all. And, You renewed us through them with an upright spirit, according to Your great mercy.

Kontakion of Great & Holy Pascha (Eighth Tone)

Even though You descended into the grave, O Immortal One, You destroyed the power of Hades; You arose as a victor, O Christ our God, and sing to the Myrrh-bearing Women, "Hail!" and to Your Apostles granting peace; You also grant resurrection to the fallen.

This Week's Servers

Epistle Readers: Greek: Alex Trigonis
 English: Randy Langel

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

Ushers: Bessie Condos, Art Markos

Prosphora: Connie Pappas Hillman

Coffee Hour: Parish Council

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, April 19th, Thomas Sunday

- ❖ **Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am**
- ❖ Sunday School/Youth Choir
- ❖ Metropolis Strategic Plan Presentation

Monday, April 20th

- ❖ DOP/AHEPA Meetings

Tuesday, April 21st

- ❖ Bible Study, 6:30 pm

Thursday, Aril 23rd, Feast of Saint George

- ❖ **Orthros, 8:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am**
- ❖ Festival Meeting, 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 26th, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

- ❖ **Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am**
- ❖ Sunday school/Sunday School fundraiser for Rubale School

Epistle Reading - Apostles 5:12-20

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

Gospel Reading- John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to Him: "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.