

The Epistle

August 2013

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Simon Thomas, Pastor

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Meaningful Worship Begins With You

What is the purpose of worship? This is an important question to ask! However, before we discuss what worship is, let us look at what worship is not!

Misconception # 1: “The Liturgy is supposed to teach us about God.”

The word *liturgy* means “common work” or “action.” What is this common work? It is the worship of God. The word *worship* means “to give reverence to God.” So Christian worship, educational as it may be, is primarily designed to offer us an opportunity to give something to God – to give our praise, our reverence, and our thanksgiving for all He has given us.

Misconception # 2: “We are supposed to ‘get something’ out of the Liturgy.”

Notice that the focus of this statement is on *us*, rather than on God. It is as if *we*, rather than God, were the object of worship. It is as if *we* were the reason for gathering together for the Liturgy. But we aren't; *God* is! In worship, our attention should be on Him. If we don't ‘get anything’ out of the Liturgy, it may very well be that we failed to ‘bring something’ to it.

Misconception # 3: “I don't like the way the Liturgy is performed.”

First of all, the Liturgy is not something to be *performed*. It is a celebration of God's love and an experience of His Kingdom. This is why the priest *celebrates* the Liturgy. The Liturgy is not, nor was it ever designed to be, a performance of Christ's life, an acting out of colorful or mystical rites, or an ancient ritual. The Liturgy is nothing less than our ascent to God's presence and our response to His invitation: “Come, let us worship.” This fact makes our attitude of vital importance. If one's goal is to “enjoy” the service, to “learn” more about Jesus, or to “get something” other than a glimpse of eternal life, one will surely be disappointed.

Those who desire to worship better, however, might consider the following:

Focus on God. God is the object of our worship. We gather together to praise and thank Him, to be fed and strengthened by Him, and to render service to Him so that we might be better equipped to render service to one another. We come before Him in awe, knowing that we are unworthy to be in His presence, but, at the same time, recognizing that His overwhelming love unites us with Him and with those with whom we worship. We are called to praise God and to give Him glory for the mighty things He has done. We are, above all, to thank God for the salvation He brings us, as well as for those gifts He shares with us in our daily lives.

Submit to God. Worship is a public, not a private, affair. By submitting to God and focusing on Him in worship, we also submit to one another. Many are the parishes, for example, which wrongly segregate children in a soundproof booth because the adults cannot concentrate on their “private prayers” when babies cry or children act like children are supposed to act. If we have difficulty accepting our relationship with others during our corporate worship, we will never be able to submit to God who demands so much more than patience with a crying infant! *Communion* with God requires a *common union* with the Christian *community*.

The Liturgy is not a time for private prayer or devotions, much less for quiet “reflection.” In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus Himself suggests that quiet, private prayer be accomplished in a quiet, private place – a closet, if need be. Public worship, however, is the work of all God's people who gather “*with one mind and one heart and one voice*” in praising God.

(continued on page 3)

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

The mission of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church is to safeguard the 2,000 year old Traditions handed down by Christ and His disciples, by encouraging members to participate actively in the Sacramental life of the Church, and by furthering our knowledge of the Faith through education. In order to realize our role as stewards of God's vineyard and to grow spiritually as individuals and as a Parish, we will share our Faith with those who seek the knowledge of God, welcome and embrace all who join us in worship and fellowship, and reach out to those in need. Fulfilling our mission will draw us closer to God and His Kingdom, and allow us to experience the love of God (Agape) in our Parish and community.

Rev. Father Simon Thomas
Parish Priest

SAINT BARBARA PARISH COUNCIL

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BESSIE CONDOS – VICE PRESIDENT	ALEX CHUCHAS
TERRY KERAMARIS – SECRETARY	CONNIE PAPPAS HILLMAN
RANDY LANGEL – TREASURER	TOM KAPERNEKAS
RUTH ANGELOS	MARY PAPADOR MENDOZA
TOM BLAKE	JAMES PETERS

PARISH MINISTRIES

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CHOIR DIRECTOR	ANDRIANA KOLENDRIANOS
GREEK FESTIVAL	GEORGE PAPADOR
GREEK SCHOOL TEACHERS	GEORGIA GASTOUNIOTIS
ST. BARBARA HISTORICAL MUSEUM	MARY MAMALAKIS
MISSIONS	ALEX HAIMANIS
ORTHODOX SOCIAL NETWORK (OSN)	VALERIE KATSIKIS
PARISH BOOKSTORE	PATRICIA DOVAS
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY CO-PRESIDENTS	GEORGIA GASTOUNIOTIS
V.I.P. COORDINATOR	SOFIJA NEDIC

YOUTH MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES	ALEX TRIGONIS & RANDY LANGEL
DANCE GROUP DIRECTOR	FATHER SIMON THOMAS
YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR	SOPHIA KENRICK
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR	ANGELA CANFIELD
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP	YIANNI MAGOULIAS & MARGO GEORGHIOU

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

AHEPA PRESIDENT	BILL POULIS
DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE PRESIDENT	VALERIE KATSIKIS

OFFICE PERSONNEL

VALERIE KATSIKIS – Office Administrator

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY * 9 A.M. – 5 P.M.

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA * METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

From time to time, the following is heard: “The Liturgy is boring.” It has been suggested that *formal* worship “puts people to sleep” and that the “services are repetitious and lacking in variety and excitement.” And of course, the classic line – “the Liturgy is simply too long” – surfaces with remarkable frequency – if not with our words, then with our actions when we come late to Liturgy.

There are those who would suggest that the Liturgy be “reformed.” This, of course, betrays a basic understanding of the Liturgy itself. The Liturgy is designed to reform *us*, to impart an attitude of awe, to offer a glimpse of God’s Kingdom here and now, and to create a bond or *common union* with God and those with whom we worship.

Let us lay aside all earthly cares. During the Liturgy we need to keep our minds and our hearts on God’s presence. The Liturgy offers renewed hope and vision, not “solutions”: Hence, we do not “bring” our professional, personal, or domestic problems to the Liturgy. In fact, the Cherubic Hymn, sung at every Divine Liturgy, tells us to do the exact opposite: “*Let us now lay aside all earthly cares so that we may receive the King of All ...*”

At the same time, we cannot worship God if we focus our attention exclusively on the vestments, the rubrics, the music, or the altar servers. The externals of our worship are designed to help us focus on God; they are not objects of attention, nor should they distract or preoccupy us. At every Liturgy we are invited to “lift up our hearts.” Do what the Liturgy asks! Lift up your heart! Listen to the Liturgy! Recognize yourself as an important part in making the Liturgy “work!” Then begin – and continue – to *live it* every day!

Worship is not an option for Christians! We were created to worship our Creator. That is why Jesus Christ so often emphasized the importance of gathering as a faith community: “*Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, I am there, in their midst.*”

President’s Report

Fellow Parishioners,

As you have hopefully read Father Simon’s monthly message, “Meaningful Worship Begins With You”, we can clearly see that there are areas for all of us to focus on in terms of our progress in the faith and what it truly means to be faithful in the church and to our religion.

We are all individuals with our own unique activities in our lives. Our common bond is that God made us, and we are all His children, under our faith, and I believe that we can continue to not only worship in our Orthodox way but to also exemplify and perpetuate our religion to each other and to others. Key is to focus and submit to God. Everything after that is simple. Thank you Father Simon for such an inspiring message.

On other notes, we are approaching the 40th annual Greek Festival at Oak Park and things are moving along nicely. As mentioned in other memos, we need all the help we can get for this event. Please contact George Papador, our festival chairman (papadorg@yahoo.com) for information on how you can help. Help is needed the Friday before for setup and the Monday after for cleanup.

On another note, Father Gary Kyriacou of Saint Demetrios of Camarillo recently published a quick story “Where Will You Be On Sunday” about a parishioner that said they did not need to go to church to worship because I can watch it on TV or the internet. Father Gary eloquently researched and presented his argument. Please read the article below. It is very enlightening.

With Love in Christ, Paul Tziouvaras

Where Will You Be On Sunday?

Rev. Father Gary Kyriacou, Proistamenos - Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church – Camarillo

I ran into an absent parishioner at Starbucks. After exchanging pleasantries I asked, “Where have you been?” The response was quick and cavalier: “What’s the purpose of Church? I don’t need to go to Church, I pray at home and I love Jesus with all my heart. Anyway, I can watch the liturgy on the internet. I’m okay, Father, I’m good with God.” As this parishioner departed, I began to think about the purpose of the Church in our lives.

Our parish has a mission statement, and I have read other well-written mission statements at parishes I visit, but what does the Archdiocese tell us is the purpose of the Church? I decided to research the Uniform Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. In Article 15, Section 2, I found: “The aims and purposes of the Parish are to keep, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled.” Later in Section 3 the Regulations say: “The Parish shall express the life of the Church in the local community according to the Orthodox Christian Faith and Tradition, sanctifying the faithful through the Divine Liturgy and the Holy Sacraments.”

AHA! I couldn't wait to call the parishioner I reconnected with at Starbucks to vindicate myself and explain that, indeed, one must attend Church! As I picked up the phone to call, eager to justify my view, I had an arresting thought: *As a representative of the Church, maybe I'm not properly sanctifying the faithful.* I put down the phone. I realized I had my own work to do. Parish life has its mission, as mentioned above, “to keep, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled.” Worshipping together on Sunday morning provides a place for the faithful to witness and participate in the Divine Liturgy and be united through Christ.

In *Wounded by Love*, Elder Porphyrios explains, “Everything is in Christ and with Christ. This is the mystery of the Church. Christ is revealed in that unity between His love and ourselves: The Church. On my own I am not the Church, but together with you, all together we are the Church. There is nothing more magnificent - to unite ourselves with our fellow men, with the joys and sorrows of each and every one, to feel that they are our own, to pray for everyone, to have care for their salvation, to forget about ourselves, to do everything for them just as Christ did for us.”

Participating in the life of the Church, the Eucharist, the weekly gathering, the Divine Liturgy, then, is not just a personal matter. It becomes our obligation to one another. The Priest cannot celebrate Liturgy by himself; at least one other must be in attendance, because Holy Communion is the development of community. Consider this as we reflect upon the great Christian symbol, the Cross.

The two beams that create The Cross can represent the two key relationships of humankind; our relationship with God, and our relationships with each other. The vertical beam of The Cross symbolizes our personal relationship with God. This is the relationship we nurture with private prayer and daily reading of the Holy Scripture; this is what my Starbucks friend called *being good with God*.

This pillar of the cross is truly important because it is representative of our awesome connection to God and our grounding in Christian faith. We must be focused, centered, and committed to the maintenance and preservation of this support, because the stability of The Cross as a whole depends on the strength of this column; it represents the great commandment of Christ, “To love God with all our mind, heart, and soul.”

The horizontal beam represents the relationships we have in communion with one another and the Church. Sure, we can live our life outside the community of the church, pray at home and watch the Divine Liturgy on the internet, but we are ignoring the relationship Christ calls us to have with one another. Without the connection and embrace we share in unity with other Christians, we don't have the crossbeam; we're missing a part of the cross. Active involvement in the church and partaking of the Sacraments fulfills the other great commandment of Christ, “to love our neighbor as ourselves.”

Ultimately, our life as Orthodox Christians is fully realized when we “commit ourselves to one another and our whole life to Christ our God.” This commitment is expressed through our participation in the life of the Church. Our Lord does not *need* us to be in church; *we* need to be in church to realize the fullness of our Faith. Rather than seeing church attendance as an obligation or our Christian duty, let's try to look at it from a different angle. Church helps us to plug in, refresh, and further connect with our Lord and each other.

It is time to leave excuses behind and allow ourselves to realize the importance of our church attendance each week. We all depend on one another, and as fallible human beings, we need the Sacraments and the time to worship free of distractions while fostering our relationship with God that church provides. So come to church and open your heart. You may be surprised at the joy and enrichment you receive in return for simply showing up. Looking forward to seeing you!

Liturgical Calendar

Friday, August 2nd

Paraklesis Service – 6:00 pm

Sunday, August 4th

6th Sunday of Saint Matthew

Orthros – 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am

Monday, August 5th

Great Vespers – 6:00 pm

Tuesday, August 6th

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Orthros – 8:00 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:00 am

Wednesday, August 7th

Paraklesis – 6:00 pm

Friday, August 9th

Paraklesis – 6:00 pm

Sunday, August 11th

7th Sunday of St. Matthew

Orthros – 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am

Monday, August 12th

Paraklesis – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, August 14th

Great Vespers – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, August 15th

Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Orthros – 8:00 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:00 am

Sunday, August 18th

8th Sunday of St. Matthew

Orthros – 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am

Sunday, August 25th

9th Sunday of St. Matthew

Orthros – 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am

Thursday, August 29th

Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Orthros – 8:00 am

Divine Liturgy – 9:00 am

Happy Name Day!

6th Transfiguration – Soteri Nicolaou

15th Theotokos – Krista Blake, Mary Fictum, Mary Frangos, Margo Georghiou, Glory Lamb, Maria Landry, Patti Stathis-Langel, Mary Mamalakis, Mary Papador Mendoza, Kara Osborn, Sydney Pappas, Francesca Richardson, Peter Stathopoulos, Mariella Stockmal, Mary Tassos, Maria Tziouvaras, Marika Withers

26th Saint Natalie – Natalia Tziouvaras

As we are determining all the Names Days of our parishioners due to the many variations of names and baptismal names, please bear with us and inform the office if your name is omitted or listed on the wrong day to be added to future lists.

Saint Barbara Prayer List

Please contact the Church Office to add/remove someone from the list.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

Archbishop Demetrios of America

Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Metropolitan Jeronymos of Mwanza

Father Simon & Presvytera Stephanie and children

Parishioners of St. Barbara's in Kazinga, Tanzania

Presvytera Krissy Flesoras (health)

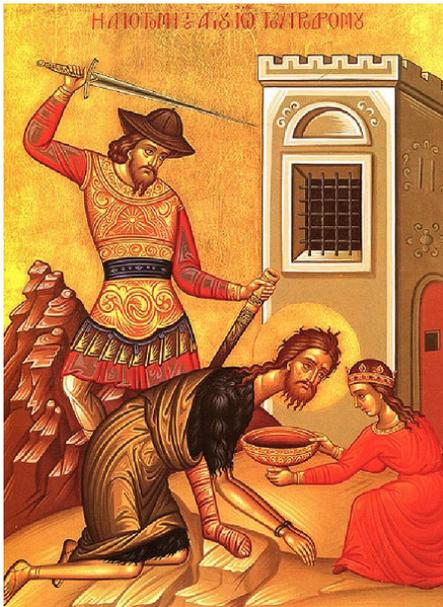
Michael Domagala (health)

Vasili Economidou (cancer)

Bill & Helen Gekis (health)

Sorel (Sophia) Kolendrianos (Rett Syndrome)

Jheri E. Redding (Lyme Disease)



Beheading of Saint John the Baptist

August 29th

The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mark 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyrdom of John the Baptist in the year 32 after the Birth of Christ.

Following the Baptism of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of king Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus).

The prophet of God John openly denounced Herod for having left his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Aretas, and then instead cohabiting with Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip (Luke 3:19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a feast for dignitaries, the elders and a thousand chief citizens. Salome, the daughter of Herod, danced before the guests and charmed Herod. In gratitude to the girl, he swore to give her whatever she would ask, up to half his kingdom.

The vile girl on the advice of her wicked mother Herodias asked that she be given the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Herod became apprehensive, for he feared the wrath of God for the murder of a prophet, whom earlier he had heeded. He also feared the people, who loved the holy Forerunner. But because of the guests and his careless oath, he gave orders to cut off the head of Saint John and to give it to Salome.

According to Tradition, the mouth of the dead preacher of repentance once more opened and proclaimed: "Herod, you should not have the wife of your brother Philip." Salome took the platter with the head of Saint John and gave it to her mother. The frenzied Herodias repeatedly stabbed the tongue of the prophet with a needle and buried his holy head in an unclean place. But the pious Joanna, wife of Herod's steward Chuza, buried the head of John the Baptist in an earthen vessel on the Mount of Olives, where Herod had a parcel of land. (The Uncovering of the Venerable Head is celebrated on February 24. The holy body of John the Baptist was taken that night by his disciples and buried at Sebastia, there where the wicked deed had been done.

After the murder of Saint John the Baptist, Herod continued to govern for a certain time. Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, later sent Jesus Christ to him, Whom he mocked (Luke 23:7-12).

The judgment of God came upon Herod, Herodias and Salome, even during their earthly life. Salome, crossing the River Sikoris in winter, fell through the ice. The ice gave way in such a way that her body was in the water, but her head was trapped above the ice. It was similar to how she once had danced with her feet upon the ground, but now she flailed helplessly in the icy water. Thus she was trapped until that time when the sharp ice cut through her neck.

Her corpse was not found, but they brought the head to Herod and Herodias, as once they had brought them the head of Saint John the Baptist. The Arab king Aretas, in revenge for the disrespect shown his daughter, made war against Herod. The defeated Herod suffered the wrath of the Roman emperor Caius Caligula and was exiled with Herodias first to Gaul, and then to Spain.

The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist, a Feast day established by the Church, is also a strict fast day because of the grief of Christians at the violent death of the Saint. In some Orthodox cultures pious people will not eat food from a flat plate, use a knife, or eat food that is round in shape on this day.

Philoptochos Society #4019

With Festival behind us we are busy finalizing the details for the "**Essence of the Mediterranean**" fundraising event **to be held September 21st from 2:00 to 5:00 pm** at the Orthodox Center and Gardens. It will be an afternoon with food from around the Mediterranean Sea, olive oil, wine tasting, learning all about the Mediterranean diet, food demonstrations and much more. Make sure all your family and friends from town and out of town are aware about this wonderful event. **Advance entrance fee is \$35.00 per person, or at the door \$40.00.**

We do want to thank La Bodega de España Restaurant & Market, Yiannis Greek & American Deli, The Greek House Cafe & Santa Barbara Premiere Catering, European Deli & Market, Fresco Cafe, Pacific Crepes, Demetria Estates Winery, Santa Barbara Winery, Lafond Winery & Vineyards, Global Gardens, Il Fustino and Dr. Shenoda (Cardiologist) for their willingness to participate to this wonderful and educational event. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association.

A "**Philoptochos Membership Tea**" will be held **September 7th at 2:00 pm** at "Casa La Cumbre" - 61 La Cumbre Circle. From Modoc Road turn to Calle de Los Amigos, Make a left into 61 La Cumbre Circle. Please park on designating visitors spaces or on Calle de Los Amigos street. (Please carpool if possible). Come and just sit back, relax and enjoy an afternoon with friends!

Please mark your calendars for the following meeting dates to be held the second Sunday of each month unless it falls on a holiday. The next meeting will be August 11 and will follow, October 13, November 10, December 8, 2013. The meeting dates for 2014 will continue the Second Sunday of each month with few changes to be announced. All meetings will be held at the Redding Education Center at 11:45 am. As the Church starts services to winter time schedule the meetings will begin at 12:15 pm.

Membership applications are available at the Orthodox Center Bulletin table. For more information about Philoptochos or to make reservations for the "**Essence of the Mediterranean**" or "**Philoptochos Membership Tea**" please call Georgia at 805-455-6725 or email ginagaston@verizon.net.

Santa Barbara-Patras Sister Cities Group

The Greek Flag has been hanging high in front of the Santa Barbara Airport entrance. If you don't see it for the day it will go up again. They take turns with the other Sister Cities flags. A world plaque "World Peace Thru People-To-People Citizen Diplomacy" is up inside the Airport, upstairs across from the escalators. The Greek flag is posted.

The Santa Barbara-Patras Sister Cities Group is continuing strong. Patras was chosen to be the Sister City due to similarities with Santa Barbara: geographically, culturally, tourism, and higher education.

The Carnival, attracts thousands of tourists from throughout Europe. The two Universities, a Technological Institution and their connected research institutes, Patras is an important scientific center like UCSB.

The region in Patras retains some of its traditional winemaking. The Achaia Clauss winery, founded in 1861, produces and exports wines of excellent quality throughout the world.

Our advocate group is increasing with members of different origins of Greece and non-Greeks and we meet every other month. We welcome everyone, Greek or non-Greek to join our group. For a Membership Application and more information, please contact Georgia Gastouniotis, President, at ginagaston@verizon.net, Vivi Tziouvaras, Vice President at v.tzaxan@gmail.com, or George Papazacharioudakis, Secretary at gpapazach@msn.com.



*YOU ARE INVITED
TO A MEMBERSHIP TEA
HOSTED BY
SAINT BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY*

*Saturday, September 7th, 2013
at
2:00 pm*

Casa La Cumbre

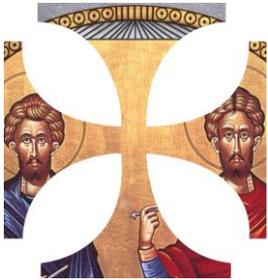
61 La Cumbre Circle

Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Enjoy an afternoon with friends!

*For reservations contact:
Georgia Gastouniotis Cell: 805-455-6725
Email: ginagaston@verizon.net*

Directions: From Modoc Road between La Cumbre Road & Las Positas, turn on Calle de Los Amigos. Make a left to 61 La Cumbre Circle. Please park at designated visitors' spaces, or on Calle de Los Amigos (Please carpool if possible).



**SAINT BARBARA
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

(Friends of the Poor)

PRESENTS

ESSENCE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

An afternoon of food, olive oil & wine tasting

To be held Saturday September 21, 2013

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Event Center and Gardens

1205 San Antonio Creek Road, Santa Barbara 805-683-4492

from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm

RESERVE BY SEPTEMBER 14TH AT \$35.00* PER PERSON

OR \$40.00 AT THE DOOR



**Global Gardens Olive Oil &
gourmet food**

www.globalgardensonline.com

Il Fustino Olive Oil for tasting

www.ilfustino.com

La Bodega de España Market-Tapa

485 Alisal Road, Ste #120, Solvang

Yiannis Greek & American Deli

3102 State Street, SB 805.682.2051

The Greek House Cafe &

Santa Barbara Premiere Catering

5 West Haley St. SB 805.560.0809

European Deli & Market

4422 Hollister Avenue, SB

805.964.6600

Fresco Cafe

3987-B State Street, SB 805.967.6037

Pacific Crepes

705 Anacapa Street, SB 805.882.1123

Stella Mare's Restaurant

50 Los Patos Way, SB 805.969.6705

Le Cafe Stella Restaurant

3302 McCaw Ave, SB 805.569.7698

Demetria Estates Winery

www.demetriaestate.com

Santa Barbara Winery

www.sbwinery.com

Lafond Winery & Vineyards

www.lafondwinery.com

Philoptochos Society of the Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church will be bringing the health benefits of the Mediterranean diet to Santa Barbara. Taste the food, olive oil and wine. Learn firsthand how to cure olives. Listen and learn about the benefits of this diet from one of the area's top health care professionals. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association.

The event will be held on our beautiful campus including the garden and patio areas with breathtaking views of the Channel Islands and the foothills.

Our goal is to serve our guests sumptuous food from the Mediterranean while educating them to the health benefits of this diet proven to increase longevity and quality of life.

For reservations and information please contact Georgia Gastouniotis at (805) 455-6725 or e-mail ginagaston@verizon.net



*We graciously accept cash or a personal check

Parish, Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Sunday School

We hope you all are enjoying your summer. Sunday school (and regular hours) begin Sunday, September 8. If you have any suggestions or would like to be involved in the upcoming school year please feel free to contact Angela Canfield at angmilo@hotmail.com.

Toumba

Thank you to all the families and dancers who gave their time to practice these past months before the festival and for participating and dancing at the festival. The kids were great! Your efforts are appreciated by all in the parish.

Orthodox Social Network

The Orthodox Social Network will host an event in August. Please check your email shortly for further information.

All are welcome - singles, couples, or just friends! A great opportunity to socialize together outside of Sundays! *If you have not received an Evite for these events, this means we do not have your email address on file. Please submit your email to the Church Office so we can include you in future events! Looking forward to your company!*

V.I.P. Seniors

The V.I.P. Seniors are on summer recess. The next meeting will be in September 2013.

Volunteers for August 2013

Epistle Readers:

4	Greek: Nick Pappas	English: Ruth Angelos
11	Greek: Tom Pappas	English: Theophilos Lasswell
18	Greek: Angelique Chuchas	English: Randy Langel
25	Greek: Voula Aldrich	English: Theophilos Lasswell

Acolytes:

Connor Blake, Costa Gastouniotis, Cainan Iorio, Dean Richardson, Dimitri Richardson

Ushers:

4	George Mamalakis, Art Markos
11	Mary Mamalakis, Bessie Condos
18	Paul Tziouvaras, George Papazacharioudakis
25	Alex Haimanis, Nick Pappas

Prosporo Bakers:

4	Sophia Kenrick
11	Connie Pappas Hillman
18	Valerie Katsikis
25	Angelique Chuchas

Altar Flowers:

4	Available
11	Available
18	Available
25	Available

Coffee Fellowship Hosts:

4	No Host
11	No Host
18	No Host
25	No Host

NEWS & NOTES

Births...

Olivia Cloutier Burge, July 21st, daughter of James & Megan Burge

Deaths...

Jacob Matiosian, June 26th, father of Mace Matiosian

Memorials...

Art Daniels (6 months), July 21st, husband of Elaine Daniels

In Memory of...

Alexandru Bulboaca, by Natalie Bulboaca

Community Organizations

Order of AHEPA, Santa Barbara Chapter 243

www.ahepa20.org/chapters E-mail ahepa243@gmail.com

The Mission of the Family of AHEPA, Santa Barbara Chapter 243, is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence. The Goal of AHEPA Chapter 243 is to expand and strengthen its educational efforts and the lifelong learning of mind and body, the Classic Hellenic definition of PAIDEA.

We have our meetings on the third Monday of the month, usually at Harry's Plaza Café in the Ranchero Room, starting at 6:30 p.m.

On July 15th, 2013, our guests were the Scarvelis family, George and Alexandra and their 3 children, Steven, Nicholas and Stamatia. We asked questions and listened to these 3 very gifted and intelligent athletic young people share their knowledge of athletics and their respective events in track and field and their college experience and the aspirations of Stamatia for the college she will attend. It was a fabulous evening, both for our members and our guests. All there had admiration for what these young people have accomplished and the wonderful upbringing they received from their loving and devoted parents.

Next month our speaker will be Geoffrey Jensen talking about his entrepreneurial experience in starting a very special bakery here in Santa Barbara.

Ahepa is contemplating having a Glendi in November. Details about this and other future events and speakers will be in the Epistle.

Each of the meetings with a guest speaker is open to members of the community and we invite you to join us, have dinner, and listen to an inspiring and informational speaker. We try to have the names and topics of the speakers announced in the Epistle in advance so that members of the community will be able to attend.

We are open to new members who want to be a part of our organization. If you are interested in joining, or attending a meeting to see if you would like to join AHEPA, please call President Bill Poulis at (805) 682-4733.

Daughters of Penelope, Santa Barbara Chapter Delos 103

www.dophq@ahepa.org; www.dopdistr20.org

The local chapter of the Daughters of Penelope has gone dark for the summer and will resume its business and annual fundraisers in September.

For more information about the Daughters of Penelope you can visit the national website at www.daughtersofpenelope.org, as well as our district website at www.dopdistr20.org. If you are interested in becoming a Daughter, please call Helen McGillivray at 965-6727.

Paraklesis Services & Fasting in August

During the first two weeks of August (August 1-14), we fast from meat, dairy, fish, wine & oil Monday through Friday, with wine & oil allowed on Saturday & Sunday. On Friday, August 6th, fish, oil & wine are permitted in honor of the Transfiguration of the Lord.

The Paraklesis Service is a supplication service to the Most Holy Theotokos, asking her to intercede to her Son and our God for the health of our souls and bodies. We celebrate on Monday, Wednesday & Friday the Small Paraklesis. Please join us for these services at 6 pm, as we pray for our family and friends.

Learning Liturgy *to be presented at*

ST. BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD at 6:30 pm — ALL ARE WELCOME!

1205 San Antonio Creek Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 • www.saintbarbara.net • 805 683 4492

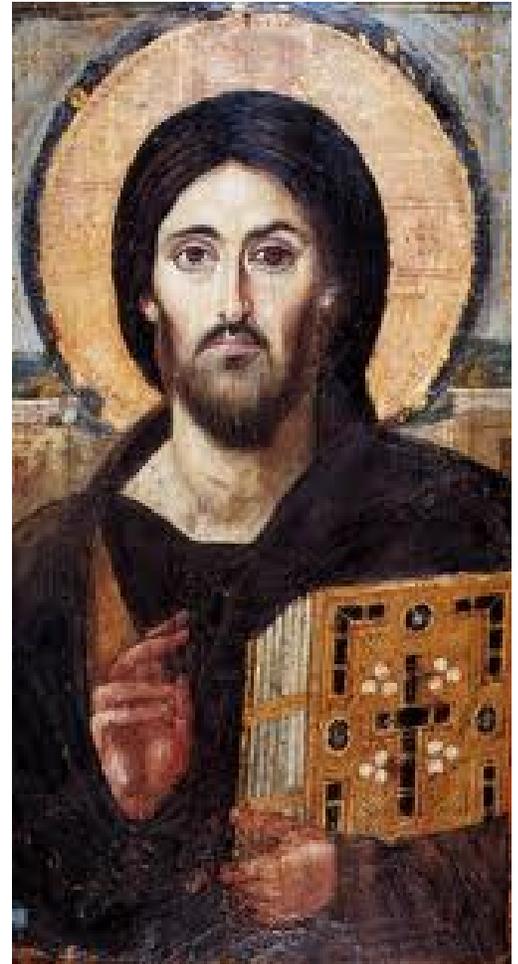
The centuries-old religious service, the Divine Liturgy (known by Roman Catholics as Mass) which recalls the Preaching, Teaching, and Resurrection of Christ is conducted every Sunday morning in Orthodox Christian Churches. Over 6 million faithful in the Americas including, Greek, Russian, Romanian, Antiochian, Bulgarian, Carpatho-Russian, Albanian, Serbian and Ukrainian parishes celebrate this service on a weekly basis.

The Divine Liturgy is one of the most beautiful services in the Orthodox Christian Church. Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Christian Church, located at 1205 San Antonio Creek Road, invites all to attend a special “Learning Liturgy” Tuesday evening, Sep. 3 at 6:30 pm. The Reverend Father Simon Thomas will turn the Altar to face the congregation during this presentation in order to explain the actions of the service, clarifying details for the congregation and visitors. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to see how the Oldest Christian Church worships.

Father Thomas will explain the historical development of the Divine Liturgy. This is an event that rarely occurs in Orthodox Churches. Father Thomas hopes all who are curious will attend, so that they may better understand the development of the Christian Church throughout the centuries.

Why is incense used in the Orthodox Church? What are icons? Why light candles? Why is the Eucharist celebrated weekly?

All of these questions and more will be answered at the “Learning Liturgy” on Tuesday, September 3 at 6:30 PM.



How did the early Christians worship and celebrate their Faith?



What is the Orthodox Christian Church?



Come witness a re-enactment of the Lord’s life.



Come hear hymns that were written in the early centuries of Christianity.



Come and see!

(John 1:46)

Stewardship 2013

Although many of our ministries are on vacation for the summer, the stewardship committee would like to remind everyone that it's never too late or too early to get involved. With so many wonderful parishioners devoting their precious *time* and *talent* to the church, there's no telling what we can accomplish! By now, all those who filled out a time and talent card should have received an email to be paired up with the appropriate ministry chair. Please see the committee if you did not fill in a form and would still like to for 2013 or if you did not receive an email.

In terms of stewardship of treasure, we have 115 families committing a total of \$127,647. As of June 18, we have received \$55,684, which accounts for 44% of the amount committed. As we recover from festival season, a huge *thank you* to the chair people, booth managers, bakers, and everyone who has been working throughout the year to make our *Fortieth Festival* success!

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

1205 San Antonio Creek Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Telephone: (805) 683-4492 Fax: (805) 964-2774 Web: www.saintbarbara.net

2013 Stewardship Commitment Card

I/We _____ Phone _____
Please Print

Address _____

Please check if address has changed

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Commit to Stewardship in the amount of \$ _____ to Christ and His Church for Jan–
Dec 2013, in gratitude for the gifts He has bestowed upon us. This Commitment will be paid
in installments of \$ _____ on a (*please circle one*) weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-
annual or annual basis.

The amount being committed is 2% or more of our annual household income.

Signed: _____

The dollar amounts above are CONFIDENTIAL.

You are advised to consult your CPA or other tax advisor regarding the deductibility of all or part of this gift.

For Authorized Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church Personnel Only

Stewardship 2013

*Aldrich, Voula
Alexander, Pam
Alexander, Sophie
*Angelos, Dr. James & Ruth
Anthes, George & Stacie
Anthimiades, Dorothy
Anderson, John & Catherine
*Anton, Alice
Argyropoulos, Demetri
Argyropoulos, Symeon & Antoinette
Ballas, Gus
Barth, Charles & Pam
Baskous, Jeannette
Benbow, Peter & Olya
Bocek, Dan & Christina
*Canfield, Taylor & Angela
Carlton, Gary & Karen Stathis
Carralejo, Adam & Ana
Carroll, John & Lexy
Casserly, Terry & Eugenia
Chachakos, Bill
Chachakos, Jim
*Chuchas, Alex & Angelique
*Cocores, Penny
Compogiannis, Chris
Condodina, Alice
*Condos, Bessie
Davlantès, Constantine
*Day, Derrick & Darcy
Demourkas, John L & Deneen
*Demourkas, John P & Dana
*Demourkas, Katina
Domagala, Terilee & Michal
*Dovas, George & Pat
Earl, Gordon & Iuliana
Fanos, Virginia
Fell, Ryan & Stacey
Fenger, Ellen
Fisher, Cleo
Fryer, Laurel
Gastouniotis, Dean & Georgia
Gekis, William & Helen
Georghiou, Diana
*Georghiou, Margo
*Goumas, Helen
Haimanis, Alex
Hanges, Andrew & Georgia
*Hillman, Chris & Connie
*Holland, Andrea
Hroundas, George
*Hunt, Barbara
Iorio, Brian & Alexandra
Kallas, Anthony & Agnes
*Kapermekas, Athanasios & Sasha
*Katsikis, Valerie
*Kenrick, Sophia
*Keramaris, Terry
Khoury, Cherif
Kingsbury, John & Katerina
Kolendrianos, Chris & Megan
*Kolendrianos, Ernest & Andriana
*Kwiatkowski, Jackson
*Lamb, Glory
Landry, Frank & Kalliroi
*Langel, Randy & Patti Stathis
*Lasswell, Theophilos & Dorothea
Laury, Helen Compogiannis
*Magoulías, Yianni
*Mamalakis, George & Mary
Manos, Michelle
Martin, Nick
Martin, Ted
Mationian, Mace & Phyllis
McKinney, John & Cheri Rae
Mendoza, Alexis
Mendoza, Richard & Mary
Moreno, Paul & Lindsey
*Nedic, Petar
Nedic, Sofija
Nicolau, Soteri & Jamie
*Osborn, Michael & Kara
*Pahos, Mike & Vivian
Papador, George & Tracey
Papador, Georgia
Papazacharioudakis, George
Pappas, Anastasios & Carolyn
Pappas, Nick
*Penoff, Dana
Peters, Jim & Linda
*Petronakis, Sam & Anna
Phillips, Emanuel
Pollalis, Gikas & Stella
Poulakos, Jennifer
*Poulis, William
Poullós, Jayne
Poulos, Steve
Poulos, Tom & Isabel
Ramirez, Alexandra & Michael
Rishwain, Jeff & Connie
*Ritsema, Glenn
Roén, Curtis & Gina
Smith, Catherine McDavid
Solomon, Karen
Stathis, Cy & Helen
Stathopoulos, Pete & Lisa
Swider, Bob & Christy
Theofanous, Theo & Danae
*Thomas, Fr. Simon & Pres. Stephanie
Towle, James & Rose Marie
Trigonis, Alex & Alexandra
Tripodes, Nikitas & Dena
*Tullis, Bud & Barbara
Tziouvaras, Ahileas & Polyxeni
*Tziouvaras, Paul & Vivi
Vames, Delight
Velliotes, Louie
Weeks, Michael & Jean Costopoulos
Winford, Gerald & Stamatina
Zozos, Presvytera Mona

***Indicates Stewards contributing at or above the 2% level**