

THE CALL TO FOLLOW CHRIST . . .

One of the most significant developments in the Church in recent years has been the opening to men and women of a variety of ways to serve Christ and Church. When people spoke of “vocations” in the past, they invariably meant the call to the Priesthood or the Monastic Life. Certainly that is still true of the call, but “vocations” today convey a whole range of ways to serve the Faith.

There is not only the need for clergy, but for musical directors, teachers, pastoral care workers, administrators, iconographers, vestment makers, parish leaders, chanters, readers and altar servers.

Still, it is the age-old call of Christ for people to dedicate themselves to Him in a special way that is the greatest need today. The Church needs leaders. The call of the Lord still sounds forth as Christ seeks those who will carry on His work. We need young men who can “shepherd the flock.” A Priest has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people. He serves them in the name of the Lord. He focuses his life on others, as Jesus did.

Happily, the Church today has a number of seminaries and colleges for the training of clergy, preparing them for the multiplicity of tasks that await them at parishes. These institutions also offer a variety of seminars, lectures and courses, for laypeople to develop skills to serve the Faith. Let the Cross inspire us to respond to Christ's invitation: “Come and follow Me.”

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

BAKING COMMITTEE

Whether you want to learn, refresh or refine your baking talents all are welcome to join us in the kitchen on Tuesday mornings. No experience is necessary and you can attend as your schedule allows. Please consider joining our wonderful Saint Sophia community of bakers. We would love to see you. **Contact:** Helen Farmer at jamelmom@gmail.com or Effie Siegel at effiesiegel3@gmail.com.



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ACCESSING AND TRANSMITTING SCRIPTURE THROUGH ICONS

A preview discussion before the opening of the November 2026 exhibit “Revealing the Hidden: Byzantine Icons from Thessaloniki and Patmos,” an exhibition of extraordinary Byzantine icons from two holy, stavropegial monasteries of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Panelists

Dr. James C. Skedros, Professor of Byzantine Studies at Hellenic College Holy Cross

Dr. Elizabeth H. Prodromou, Professor of the Practice in the International Studies Program at Boston College

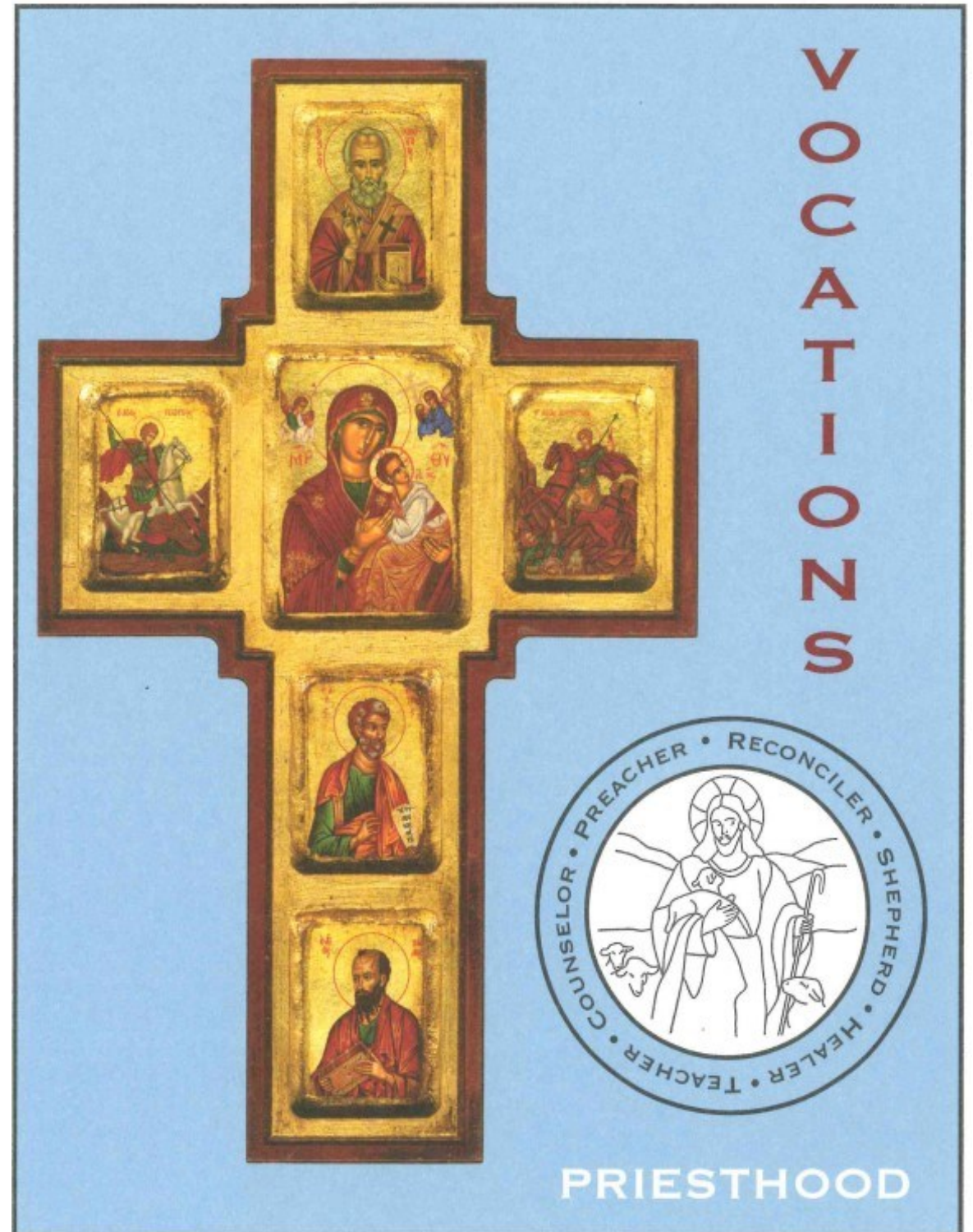
Dr. Bissera V. Pentcheva, Professor of Art at Stanford University

SEPTEMBER 24, 2026, 6:00–8:00 PM

MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE

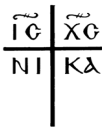
400 4TH STREET SW, WASHINGTON, DC

Free ticket required to attend in person or virtual:
www.museumofthebible.org/events/icons-sacred-beauty#panel-1



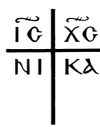


SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



2815 36th Street NW
Washington, DC 20007
Tel: 202-333-4730

Website: <http://www.saintsophiadc.org>
E-mail: office@saintsophiadc.com



Sunday Worship: Orthros: 8:30 AM, Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM.
Weekday Worship: Orthros and Divine Liturgy 8:30 AM.

Sunday, September 13, 2026

SUNDAY BEFORE HOLY CROSS

Matins Gospel Reading : Luke 24:1-12

Epistle Reading : St. Paul's Second Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18;

Gospel Reading : John 3:13-17;

Clergy

The Reverend Steven P. Zorzos,
D.Min. *Presiding Priest* &
Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne
The Rev. Gregory Gatanas, M.Div.
Presbyter & Assistant Priest

Parish Council

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Ioannis Xanthos

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Pete Panagiotopoulos

Administrator Assistant

Yianni Panagiotopoulos

Master Chanter (Archon)

Georgios Theodoridis

Sexton

Victor Berio

Facilities Assistant

Angel Claire

Memorial Services:



Athena Argyropoulos (40 days)

and

Helen Tsintolas (2 years) &

Demetrios "Mimis" Tsintolas (21 years)



Monday, September 14th

THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Service begins at 7:30AM

Wednesday, September 16th

Euphemia the Great Martyr (3rd century)

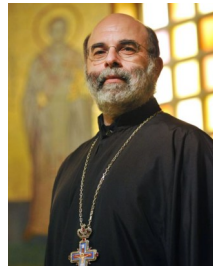
Service begins at 7:30AM



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

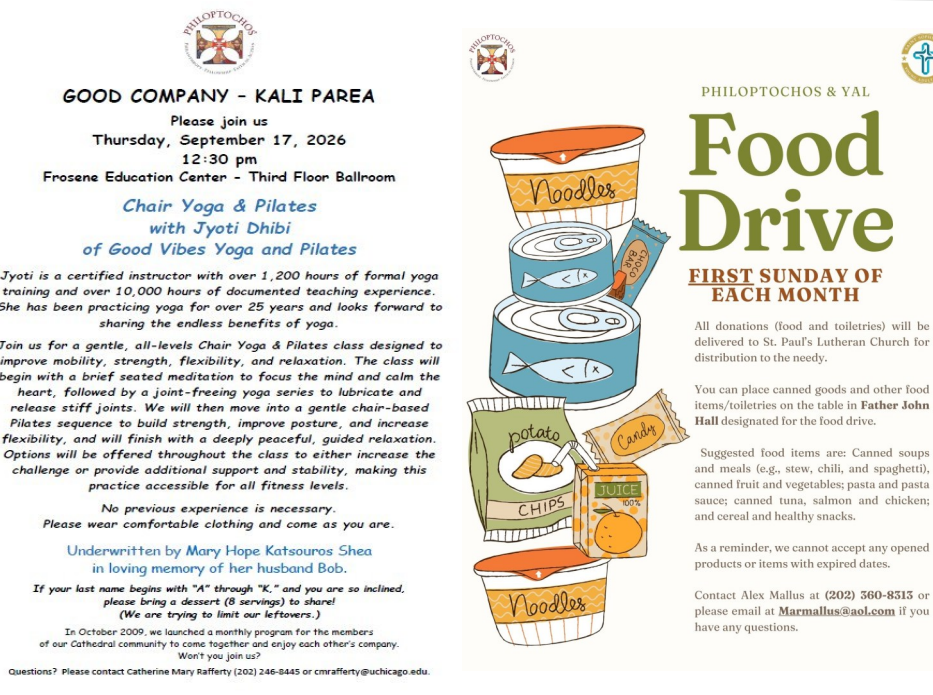
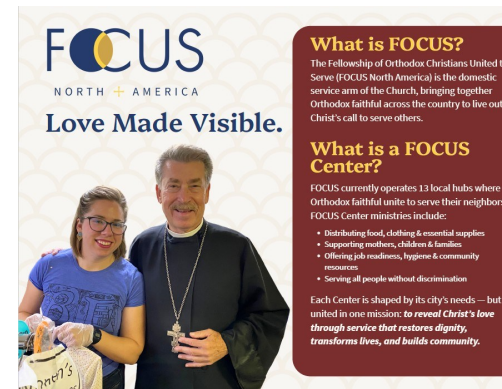
Today, Father Steve will celebrate his last Orthros and Divine Liturgy as Protopresbyter of Saint Sophia Cathedral, and immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the EAC Ballroom, the Clergy and Parish Council will hold a Reception to Honor and say Farewell to Father Steve.

AXIOS!



Sunday, September 20: Father Augustine will celebrate his first Orthros and Divine Liturgy as Protopresbyter of Saint Sophia Cathedral and immediately following the Divine Liturgy, the Clergy and Parish Council will hold a Welcome Reception for Father Augustine in the Atrium.

— We welcome all our visitors —



STEWARDSHIP

Please be reminded that you must be current with your stewardship obligations to vote at the June Parish Assembly Meeting. While we remain exceedingly grateful for the congregation's generosity, we are falling behind in our projected numbers of stewards and stewardship revenue for the year. Father Steve reminds us that to fulfill our Archdiocese Assessment, keep our lights on, pay our staff, etc., to "search your innermost heart, please consider the annual operating budget of the Cathedral breaks down to \$3,330 per steward, or just \$9.12 a day."



Sunday School

Directors

Father Steven P. Zorzos

Father Gregory Gatanas

Academic Sunday School Dean(s)

Amanda Lockhart (Director)

Kelly Tanzi (Curriculum Specialist)

Sunday School Administrator

Vivian Kambanis

Sunday School Youth Director

Effie Frankowski

Sunday School Little Angels / Joy

Advisor

Shabboo Likouris

Maria Jankovich

Sunday School GOYA

Co-Advisors

Christina Sardelis

Stephanie Stratos

GOYA Basketball Coaches

Program Director &

Boy's Head Coach:

George C. Wallace

Assistant Basketball Coaches

(BOYS)

Evan Ganginis

Alec Economakis

Chris Vondas

(GIRLS)

Maria Bajis

Stavroula Coutris

Angelica Ceccone

Haley Economakis

YAL

President

Callie Kambanis

Youth Ministry Outreach

Orthodox Christian Fellowship

Father Gregory

Philoptochos Society

President

Margo Anderson

Baking Committee

Helen Farmer

Effie Siegel

Greek School - Children

Mr. Alexios Kotsifakos

Administrator / Instructor

Greek School - Adults

Dr. Andriana Kalapothakos

Greek School Coordinator Emeritus

Bookstore

Fotini Uhl

The PROKEIMENON is from Psalm 27.9,1
O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.
Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Epistle Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross
The Gospel According to John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

 REGISTER HERE

Welcome
BACK TO
SAINT SOPHIA SUNDAY SCHOOL

9/13 - FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
9/27 - AGIASMOS "BLESSING OF THE WATERS" SERVICE FOR THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR
CLICK ON THE ABOVE OR CODE TO REGISTER!

SAINT SOPHIA BAKING COMMITTEE

BAKING LADIES NEEDED

FUN TIME BAKING

WE NEED YOU!

EVERY TUESDAY
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
or
whatever time works for you between 9:30-2:30 pm!

LUNCH PROVIDED


PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
CHARITIES BRIEFING

 **FRIENDSHIP PLACE**
OCTOBER 4TH

 **HOUSE OF RUTH**
Hope Starts Here
OCTOBER 11TH

 **CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY**
Keeping DC Families Together
OCTOBER 18TH

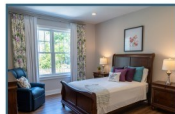
AFTER DIVINE LITURGY

Each 20 minute presentation will be followed by a short Philoptochos General Membership Meeting.
A light lunch will be served.

JOIN US!

Metropolitan Washington
Orthodox Senior Housing
Assisted Living and Memory Care
7733 Bradley Boulevard, Bethesda, MD



- Private bedrooms and bath
- Delicious home cooked meals
- Large common areas for engaging activities
- Screened in porch perfect for visiting with family and friends
- Professional staff includes two full-time registered nurses and music, art and recreational therapists
- With three direct caregivers for eight residents, our staff-to-resident ratios lead the industry and enable caregivers to focus on personal interactions and relationships.

 **LARMAX HOMES**

Call today for more information or to schedule a tour
Contact Lynne Haddon
703-712-2515 Lynne@larmaxhomes.com

SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Washington, DC

September 13, 2026



Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross
The Tone for this day is the Plagal of the Second
The Morning Gospel of the Orthros is the Fourth

The Reading is from the Gospel According to Luke 24:1-12

On the first day of the week at early dawn, the women went to the tomb, taking spices, which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel; and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how He told you, while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise." And they remembered His words and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the Apostles; but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home wondering at what had happened.

GREEK BAKING COMMITTEE
STARTING SEPTEMBER 15th



JOIN US
to Preserve Our Traditions & Bake Delicious Greek Pastries!
Share recipes, make friends, and bake with love.

BAKING BEGINS TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15th
ALL LEVELS WELCOME!
From experienced bakers to beginners.

QUESTIONS?
Helen Farmer: 301-980-9512
Effie Siegel: 240-271-2515


it's time for OLDIES NIGHT
Please bring your favorite dessert!
OPEN 6PM
17 OCT

Cost per ticket: \$75 and \$35 for YAL
Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer & Live Music

Charity Receiving Proceeds is Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve (FOCUS) DMV Initiative

Sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos of Saint Sophia Cathedral, Washington, D.C.


SAINT SOPHIA + AGIA COPIA
 GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL • WASHINGTON DC



GREEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Learn the Language. Celebrate the Culture. Build Lifelong Connections

LOWER SCHOOL PROGRAM

For Students Ages 3–16

Help your child discover the beauty of the Greek language while building a lifelong connection to Greek culture, history, and traditions.

- Learn to speak, read, and write Greek
- Build vocabulary and grammar through engaging lessons
- Explore Greek history, traditions, and cultural celebrations
- Participate in school events, cultural activities, and folk dances
- Develop confidence through interactive learning in a supportive classroom environment

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Age-appropriate instruction
- Experienced and dedicated teachers
- Small class sizes
- Interactive and engaging lessons
- Opportunities to prepare for Greek language proficiency exams (Ellinomathetia)

ADULT GREEK LANGUAGE PROGRAM

For Beginners, Heritage Learners & Continuing Students

Whether you're learning Greek for family, travel, work, or personal enrichment, our adult classes provide a welcoming and encouraging learning environment.

- Communicate confidently in everyday situations
- Read and write modern Greek
- Strengthen grammar and vocabulary
- Gain a deeper appreciation of Greek culture, customs, and traditions
- Build practical language skills you can use at home and while traveling
- One-on-one classes available

COURSE LEVELS

BEGINNER • INTERMEDIATE • ADVANCED

If you're unsure which level fits you best, we offer placement exams.

LOWER SCHOOL

CLASSES BEGIN: **SEPTEMBER 12**

202-333-4730

admin@saintsophiadcgreeksschool.com

https://saintsophiadcgreeksschool.com/

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION



ADULT PROGRAM

CLASSES BEGIN: **SEPTEMBER 12**

CLASSES MEET ONLINE ONLY - SYNCHRONOUS

MOST GROUP CLASSES MEET ON SATURDAYS

demeask@gmail.com

https://saintsophiadcgreeksschool.com/

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION





Saint Sophia Cathedral Greek School 2026-2027

Job Openings

Lower levels Lead Teacher and Assistant

To apply or for more information, please send your resume to the Principal Alexios Kotsifakos at admin@saintsophiadcgreeksschool.com

SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE OUR "MOMMY AND ME" MINISTRY FOR OUR MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

LITTLE ANGELS

AGES 40 DAYS TO 3 YEARS OLD

STARTING SEPTEMBER 13TH

EVERY SUNDAY FOLLOWING HOLY COMMUNION

LOCATION: YOUTH ROOM

Contact The Church Office or Presvytera for More Information 202-333-4730

www.saintsophiadc.org

Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral

HOPE & JOY

Turtle Park Meet-Up

26 Sept **1:30 PM** **45th St & Van Ness St NW, Washington, DC 20016**

AGES 5-12

Join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and pizza!

sign up using this [link!](#)





SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

GOYA BASKETBALL

STARTING MONDAY **SEPTEMBER 14TH**

AGES 12+ **8:00PM-9:30PM**

THOMAS S. WOOTTON HIGH SCHOOL

QUESTIONS?

governorgw@gmail.com

Today we Commemorate the Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection (Holy Sepulchre)

The church that is honoured far above all others is that of the Holy Resurrection, which Saint Constantine the Great constructed at the place of Golgotha, where our Saviour was crucified and buried. For a long time this place had been purposely buried beneath the earth by the Jews and heathen; furthermore, during the reign of Hadrian (117-138), a temple dedicated to Aphrodite was built over the site so that this sacred place might be even further desecrated and fall into utter oblivion. It was here that the Cross was hidden. However, at the command of the pious Emperor Constantine, excavations were made and the tokens of the saving Passion were found. It was here, then, that the very great and magnificent temple named in honour of Christ God's Resurrection-the Anastasis-was built under the supervision of the blessed Helen, while Dracilian was Eparch of Palestine and Macarius was Archbishop of Jerusalem. It was the latter, also, who exalted the venerable Cross and performed the consecration of this temple in the year 336.



September 2026

18 **19** **25** **26**

Saint Sophia YAL Fall Kickoff!

Saint Sophia Cathedral Atrium @ 2 pm (18-35)

Happy hour at Mission to follow (21+)

MERAKI LAOGRAPHIC ARTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fall 2026 Dance Schedule

Sundays
 *Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral

K-4 th Grades	1PM-2:30PM
5 th -8 th Grades	3PM-5PM
Adults 18+	5PM-7PM

Mondays
 *Potomac/TBD

9 th -12 th Grades	7:30PM-9:30PM
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SAINT SOPHIA + AGIA COPIA
 GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL - WASHINGTON DC

...is excited to present our newest initiative:

"Holy Wisdom" Byzantine Youth Choir

EQUIP + WORSHIP + GROW

Under the direction of Archon Music Instructor Georgios Theodoridis



Open to all Youth Ages 8-18

Sundays Following the Divine Liturgy



AHEPA Chapter 31 Annual Dance

at the Frosene Center of Saint Sophia Cathedral
 2815 36th St. NW
 Washington, DC 20007

— Live Music by —

PALKO
 Greek Music Band

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24 2026
7PM-11PM

TICKETS:
 \$ 75 per Adult & \$55 for Youth under 25

PURCHASE TICKETS & SELECT YOUR TABLE AT:
<https://www.DCgreek.com>

TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT:
DCgreek.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

DATE NIGHT

WITH FR. GREGORY & PRES. ELEFThERIA

WISDOM OF LOVE MINISTRY

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING WITH YOUR SPOUSE WITH A PROVIDED DINNER & DISCUSSION TO STRENGTHEN OUR ~ MARRIAGES ~

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 2026 | SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL ATRIUM

SIGN UP VIA THIS [GOOGLE FORM](#) BY SEPTEMBER 29TH



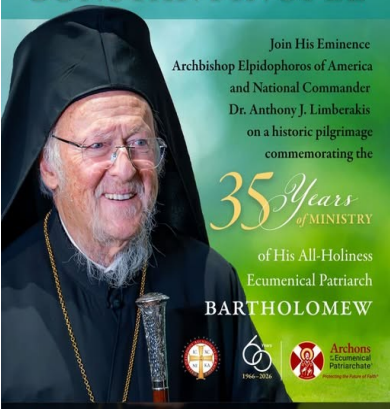
Pilgrimage to CONSTANTINOPLE

OCT 19-23 | 2026

Join His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and National Commander Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis on a historic pilgrimage commemorating the

35 Years of MINISTRY

of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch **BARTHOLOMEW**



Secure your spot on the trip!

Call Cloud Tours at 718-721-3808 or email anthony@cloudtours.com