

THE EPISTLE

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church

35 North Malin Road

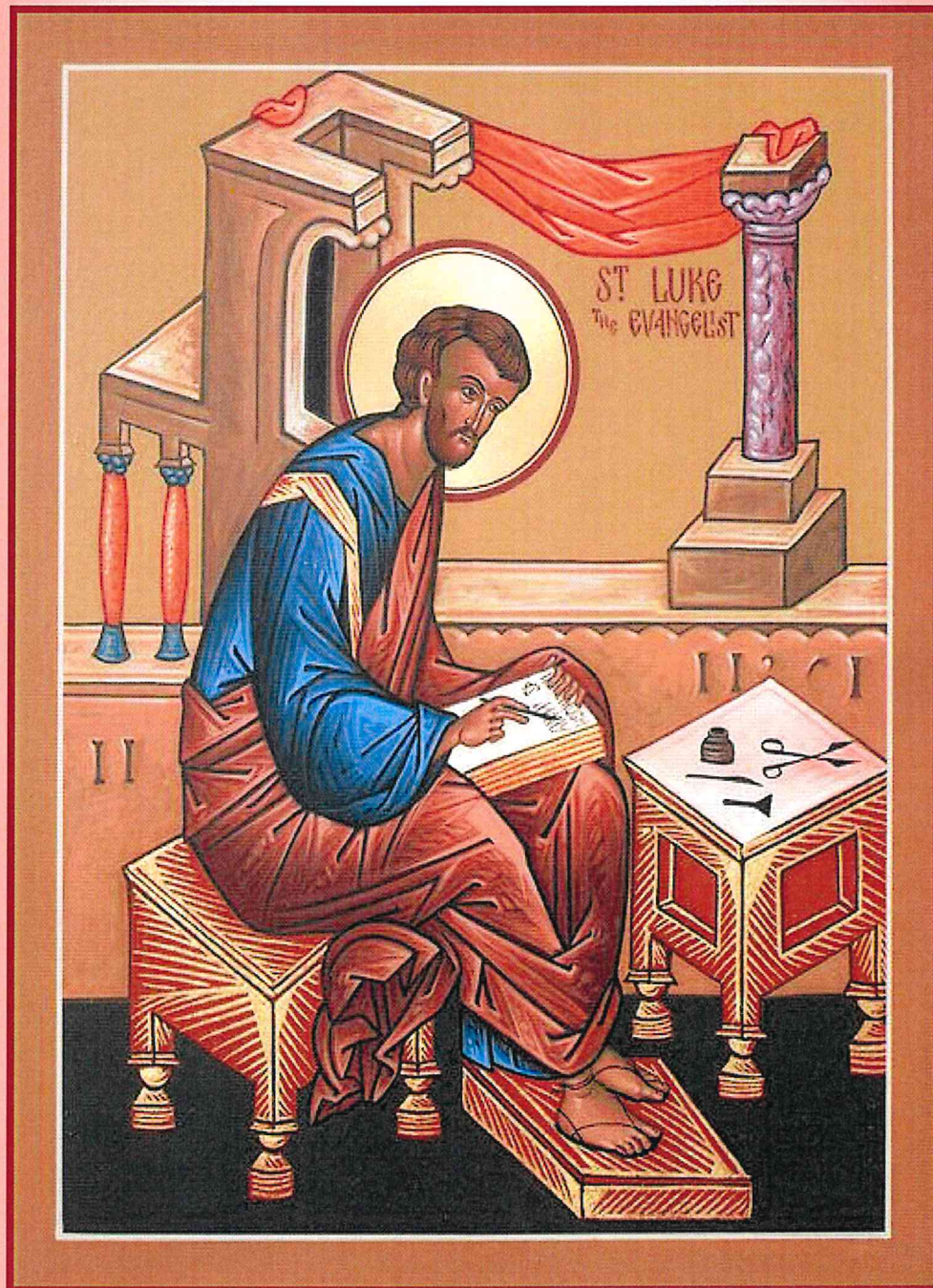
Broomall, PA 19008

Rev. Father Christ Kontos, Protopresbyter

610-353-1592

www.st-luke.org

October 2024



St. Luke Golf Classic

Monday, October 14, 2024



Paxon Hollow Country Club

850 Paxon Hollow Road, Broomall, PA 19008



Registration – 11 AM
Shot Gun Start – 12PM

Contests Include:

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

REGISTER HERE



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

\$70 - Dinner Reception Only

Registration Deadline – October 1st

Checks Payable to:
St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
Memo: 2024 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 Sponsor: \$250

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

Parish Life

Forty-Day Blessings

On September 22, 2024, Father Christ offered the Forty Day Blessing for **Adele Irimi Marcucci**. Congratulations to **David Marcucci & Patra Konugres** as we anticipate the Baptism!



Baptisms



The daughter of **Peter & Sophia Alexopoulos** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on September 22, 2024. Her sponsor, **Margarita & Dimitri Petris**, baptized her with the name **Kleoniki**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Kleoniki Maria Alexopoulos**.

The son of **Theodosios & Stephanie Hristopoulos** was baptized in the Holy Mother Church on September 28, 2024. His sponsor, **Constantine Hristopoulos & Maria Panagiotou**, baptized him with the name **Nikolaos Yiorgos**. May Our Lord continue to bless you, **Nikolaos Yiorgos Hristopoulos**.

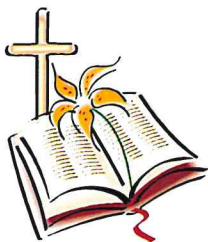
Weddings

Evan Palmieri & Alexis Yazge were united in Holy Matrimony on September 29, 2024. **Jason Catanese** stood by their side as the sponsor and the witness was **Laila Tokatli**.



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

Funerals



The servant of God, **George Grigos**, fell asleep in the Lord on August 26, 2024. His funeral service was held on September 5, 2024.

The servant of God, **Pauline Tzinis Likos**, fell asleep in the Lord on September 4, 2024. Her funeral service was held on September 12, 2024.

The servant of God, **Mitchel Michael Gardane**, fell asleep in the Lord on September 13, 2024. His funeral service was held on September 20, 2024.

We extend our condolences and prayers to their families. MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL.

October 2024 Ecclesiastical Calendar

Sunday, October 6th

3rd Sunday of Luke

Thomas the Apostle; Eroteis of Cappadocia

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



Sunday, October 13th

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Carpos, Papylos, Agathodoros, & Athoniki, Benjamin the Deacon

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

Join us as we celebrate our beloved Patron Saint Luke

Thursday Evening, October 17th

Great Vespers and Blessing of the Loaves

6:00pm Vespers and Artoklasia

Fellowship Reception to Follow in the Community Center

Friday, October 18th

Saint Luke the Evangelist

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

Fellowship Luncheon to Follow in the Community Center

Sunday, October 20th

6th Sunday of Luke

Artemios of Antioch; Gerasimos of Cephalonia

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

Friday, October 25th

Vespers of St Demetrios @ St. Demetrios in Upper Darby

6:00pm Vespers

Saturday, October 26th

Saint Demetrios the Myrrhstreamer @ St. Demetrios in Upper Darby

9:00am Orthros and Divine Liturgy

Fellowship Luncheon to Follow

Sunday, October 27th

7th Sunday of Luke

Nestor of Thessaloniki; Kyriakos, Pat. Of Constan.

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

Monday, October 28th

OXI Day

Holy Protection of the Theotokos; Terrance and Eunice

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

OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 6:30pm Elements of Theology 8pm Adult Volleyball	2 11am Bible Study 6pm Girls Basketball 7:15pm Boys Basketball	3 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men	4	5
6 <i>Church Music Sunday</i> 11am Sunday School / SPARK Sunday	7 4:30pm FTIN Cooking 7pm Philoptochos Board Meeting	8 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 6:30pm Elements of Theology 8pm Adult Volleyball	9 11am Bible Study 6pm Girls Basketball 7:15pm Boys Basketball	10 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	11	12
13 11am Sunday School / Picture Day 12:15pm Choir Rehearsal 2pm DVYC Basketball	14 <i>Golf Outing</i> 	15 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 6:30pm Elements of Theology 8pm Adult Volleyball	16 11am Bible Study 6pm Girls Basketball 7:15pm Boys Basketball	17 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 6pm Philoptochos – St. Luke Name Day Vespers Reception	18 <i>St. Luke Feastday</i> 11am St. Luke Name Day Luncheon	19
20 11am Sunday School 2pm DVYC Basketball	21	22 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 6:30pm Elements of Theology 8pm Adult Volleyball	23 11am Bible Study 6pm Girls Basketball 6:30pm Philoptochos General Assembly 7:15pm Boys Basketball	24 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 7pm Greek Dance Rehearsal	25 <i>CC/GYM – CLOSED!!</i> <i>(GYM FLOORS BEING WORKED ON) – DO NOT ACCESS CC</i>	26 <i>CC – CLOSED!!</i>
27 <i>CC – CLOSED!!</i> 11am Sunday School 12pm General Assembly 12:15pm Choir Rehearsal	28 <i>CC – CLOSED!!</i>	29 <i>CC – CLOSED!!</i> Philoptochos – BGT Baking 10am Senior Men 5pm Greek School 6:30pm Elements of Theology	30 11am Bible Study 6pm Girls Basketball 7:15pm Boys Basketball	31 9am Playgroup 10am Senior Men 		

Saint Romanos the Melodist



The hymnologists of the Orthodox Church are Christians of virtue and great faith, having been endowed with musical talent as well as the power of religious inspiration. Their creations have enriched our worship services and have helped turn our souls towards God. Perhaps the greatest of all hymnologists is **St. Romanos the Melodist**. Many other hymnologists had written ecclesiastical hymns, but none of them inspired the Christians as much as St. Romanos.

Romanos was a Syrian Christian who lived in the beginning of the 6th century. A convert to Orthodoxy from Judaism, he was ordained a deacon and served in the Church of Beirut. His talent was great. Unlike others, he wrote his hymns in simple language and produced a pleasant meter in the verse by the way he accented words. The hymns he composed appealed to the hearts of the people, and are still sung today. Romanos has been called "Sweet Singer" (*Glykophonos*), "Melodist" (*Melodhos*), and "Righteous Chanter" (*Psaltis Dhikeosinis*).

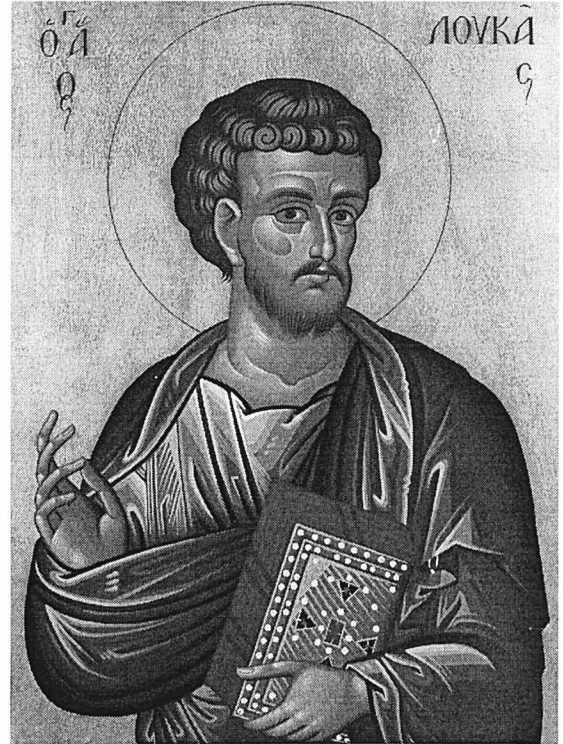
Romanos wrote hundreds of hymns celebrating the mystery of the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the living of a Christian life. One of his most famous compositions is the hymn celebrating the Nativity of our Lord, "Today the Virgin gives birth to One who is above all living things..." (*I Parthenos Simeron*). St. Romanos is also said to have composed the Akathist Hymn, a *kontakion* which we still chant during the *Heretismoï* services during Great Lent.

Romanos died on October 1st in 510 AD. He was a productive genius and artist, writing and accenting thousands of kontakia. He has been called the patron saint of all who sing for the Church. Others say he is the leader in the world of religious hymnology. Surely, he has made a profound contribution to divine worship and deserves to be recognized by all who sing and by all who listen to the hymnology of our services.

The first Sunday on or after the Feast of St. Romanos (October 1st) has been designated by our Archdiocese as **NATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY**. Each year on this Sunday, we pause to honor the gifts and contributions of our church musicians — clergy, choir directors, psaltai, choir members, organists, and Church School music educators. We thank them for their devotion to our Church through their Ministry of Music.

Luke The Apostle and Evangelist – October 18th

Luke was not a Jew but understood the law of Moses and their customs. He had studied medicine, he was a painter, and he became one of the 70 apostles, after he had seen and heard Jesus in Galilee. After the crucifixion, Luke was walking to Emmaus, from Jerusalem, with Cleopas, and Jesus appeared to them in another form and traveled with them unrecognized. Beginning with Moses and the prophets, Jesus showed them passages that foretold His coming.



When He went in and broke bread with them, they recognized Him, and He vanished before their eyes. The two went to tell the other apostles, but Simon had already seen Jesus. Then, Jesus appeared in their midst and showed them his wounds. Luke headed for Antioch after the ascension of Jesus. En route, he stopped in Sebaste and there found the relics of John the Baptist. He tried to take them back to Antioch but was prevented from doing so. Instead, he detached and took John's right arm that Jesus had bowed his head under when He was baptized. He traveled with the Apostle Paul to Greece, that many writers say was his relative. Then Luke established the Church of Macedonia alone for several years. Luke was the first iconographer.

He showed the Theotokos three icons that he had painted of her and Jesus. She blessed them and said, "May the Grace of Him who was born of me and my mercy be with these icons!" Luke again traveled with Paul to Palestine and Rome, where Paul was imprisoned. Luke would never abandon Paul. In Rome, Luke wrote his gospel and the book of the Acts of the Apostles, and these were both reviewed and approved by Paul. After Nero martyred Paul in Rome, Luke taught in Italy, Dalmatia, Gaul, Macedonia, Achaia, and Egypt, where he was ordained as bishop.

At the age of 84, he was crucified on an olive tree in Achaia. His relics produced a multitude of healings. In the fourth century, his relics were transferred to Constantinople by Emperor Constantine. En route, an imperial eunuch, with an incurable disease, helped carry Luke's relics. When he had gone only a few steps, he was healed. Luke is buried in the Church of the Holy Apostles with Apostles Timothy and Andrew.

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.





COMMUNITY CENTER/GYM CLOSED

(GYM FLOORS BEING WORKED ON)

DO NOT ACCESS CC

WHEN: FRIDAY OCTOBER 25, 2024 – TUESDAY OCTOBER 29, 2024

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOTIFICATION

A General Assembly has been scheduled for Sunday, October 27, 2024.

We will commence the meeting in the Social Hall
immediately after the Divine Liturgy.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

OCT:	Chairs:	Betsy Pappas	Diana Palumbo
6-Oct	Maria Navrosidis	Martha DiCamillo	Maria Kalisperis
13-Oct	Eugenia Gekas	Irene Petsinis	Patty Baldwin
20-Oct	Alexis Dahlin	Alexandra Vamvakidou	Maria Vamvakidou
27-Oct	Jeannie Fischer	Alexis Limberakis	Christine Turner
NOV:	Chairs:	Effie Guthrie	Sue Clark
3-Nov	Katherine Kennedy	Pam Smith	Niki Tsetsekos
10-Nov	Sally Kyvernitis	Kathy Politis	Olympia Corbino
17-Nov	Carol Kusturiss	Alyssa Poole	Helen Kopitas
24-Nov	Kathy Zografakis	Stephanie Zografakis	Patty Karalis

DIAKONIA SCHEDULE

September 29	Sonya Pappas	Gus Pappas
October 6	Martha DiCamillo	Barbara Papageorge
October 13	Kathy Fisfis	Ellena Vaganos
October 20	Tom Trantas	Marta Laynas
October 27	Dee Karras	Diane Sioutis
November 3	Violet Markopoulos	Vasie Marinakos
November 10	Anna Hadgis	Stephanie Carroll
November 17	Maria Carafides	Linda Lempere
November 24	Sonya Pappas	Gus Pappas

*If you are not able to attend on your scheduled day please switch with another member.
Thank you for your help and support during Sunday Divine Liturgy.*

St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church Book Club

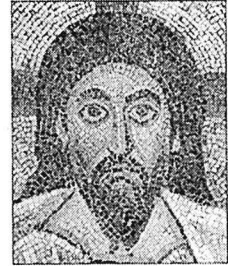
2024-2025 Announcement

With the blessings and guidance of Fr Christ, St. Luke's Greek Orthodox Church is proud to announce it has a new Book Club. This book club will focus on discovering and exploring our rich Orthodox Christian Faith through a variety of texts. We will start with Father Anthony M. Coniaris' *Introducing the Orthodox Church: It's Faith and Life* for our inaugural year. We plan on meeting once a week every Thursday (with exceptions) from 8:00 to 9:00 P.M. online via ZOOM. The St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church Book Club is open to any and all who have a desire to seek more knowledge and understanding about our Faith. It is meant to help answer and help ask questions about our various services, feast days, saints, and holidays etc. If you are interested please email Dean Vlahos or Evangelos Sariyanidi at BCofStLuke@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 8:00 P.M.

Introducing
The Orthodox Church
Its Faith and Life

Anthony M. Coniaris

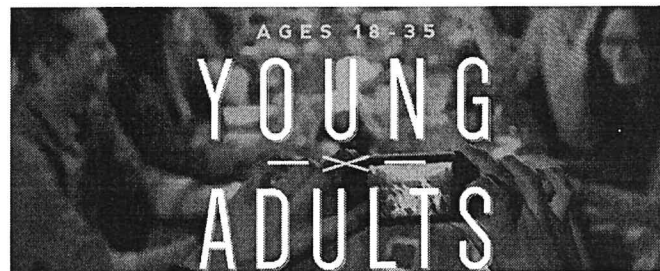
22ND EDITION



Foreword by His Holiness

Archbishop of America, His Beatitude the Holy and Righteous Father, Patriarch of Constantinople, Ecumenical Patriarch of the East, Bartholomew I. To be used in conjunction with adult membership training program classes.

New St. Luke's Group!



If you or someone you know is 18-35 years old, then the St. Luke's Young Adult League (YAL) may be for you. Not only does it give you an opportunity to meet young people from other churches, but it can make you closer to those who also go to St. Luke's. The goal is to bring everyone together and share great memories through our faith and Greek culture.

Our first monthly meeting will be at the church in late October or early November. Future events that we host may be activities like ice skating, hiking, and helping those in need!

To express interest on joining this YAL group and to be informed on all YAL events, please contact Group Leader Alexander Arcidiacono at 610-888-6117 or send an email to yalstluke@gmail.com.

For Those in Need...
you may ask, "What are we doing lately?"
OCTOBER, 2024 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 in need.

As has been customary for many years, in **September** FTIN distributed a range of entrees and other treats generously donated by *The Greek Affair* in lieu of holding a standard Cook and for which FTIN extends our gratitude.

And our bi-monthly delivery of food items designated for the senior and homeless populations served by the Salvation Army's food pantry occurred on September 24th.

So FTIN's next (**October**) **Cook** is scheduled for Monday evening, **OCTOBER 7th** beginning at **4:30pm**.

Finally, we do want to extend a Save-the-Date alert for November's **Thanksgiving Cook** which will take place on Monday, November 18th. And be on the lookout for information on FTIN's annual Frozen Turkey Drive which will be announced towards month-end.

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!

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.

For more information about FTIN, to be added to our mailing list and 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

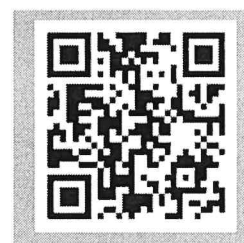
Our Greek Folk Dance Groups are looking forward to a new year and we're excited to welcome new members! No previous dance experience is necessary!

Children entering Second Grade through Sixth Grade can join **Ellinakia**
Youth entering Seventh Grade through Twelfth Grade can join **Olympians**

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings at Saint Luke. Our first practice of the new season with new members is scheduled for Thursday, October 10th. Join us for fun and friendship!

Please access our online registration form at Greek Dance Registration 2024-2025

Or by using the QR code below



Please contact Cynthia Costanzo at ckarakantas@gmail.com with any questions.

ST. LUKE FAMILY PLAYGROUP

READY, SET, PLAY....



Little Angels playgroup sessions
will be every Thursday
from 9am – 11am
on the top floor of the
Education Building, Room 208

***A great opportunity for fellowship &
fun for our children and their parents!***

Any questions, please contact
Stella Stroumbaras at stlukeplaygroup@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

It has been wonderful to see your children back in their Sunday School classes! We look forward to teaching and interacting with them in the coming months.

Please note, dismissal time for all Sunday School classes, unless otherwise indicated, is **12pm**. Therefore, if Liturgy is over before noon, we hope that you will enjoy child-free fellowship with friends, family and other parishioners at coffee hour before arriving at the Sunday School classroom(s) for pick-up. If your child is to be picked up early, or, in the case of the older students, if your child will leave class early because of another Sunday commitment, **please inform your child's teacher prior to class**. It is important for the sake of your child's safety, and for your peace of mind, that both the arrival and dismissal processes go as smoothly and securely as possible. We thank you for being our partners in all aspects of the religious education of your children.

Is your child not registered for Sunday School yet? No problem! To register your child or children, please click on the following link: <https://www.ss.st-luke.org/registration>, OR use the QR code.



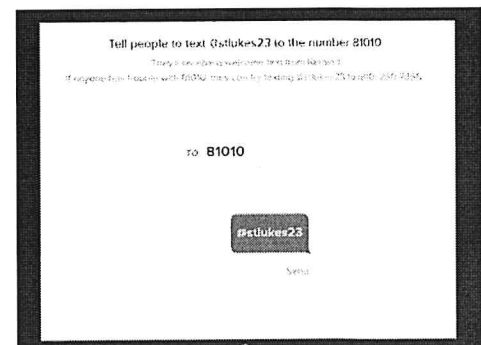
Here is the **Class Schedule for October, 2024:**

- October 6 Worship and Classes, **Spark Sunday for all GOYA-aged students*. 7th - 12th grade classes meet in first floor conference room (high school room) at beginning of Sunday School.***
- October 13 Worship and Classes, **Picture Day**
- October 20 Worship and Classes
- October 27 Worship and Classes

***Spark Sunday-** St. Luke teens will meet as a group, before breaking up into their individual classes, during Sunday School. Our mission- to spark the teens' thoughts, ideas, feelings, and conversations about their faith. We also hope to ignite the love of Christ in their hearts! GOYA meeting will follow each monthly Spark Sunday Session. Refreshments provided. For more information, please contact GOYA Advisor, Chrissy Katsapis, at chriskat9@comcast.net, or our Sunday School Directors Jane Kelly, Panayota Kevgis, and Sophia Milinkovic at stlukesundayschool@gmail.com.

****Picture Day, Sunday, October 13, 2024**, following Holy Communion, all students and Sunday School teachers should proceed to the steps at the front entrance to the church, to await Father Christ's arrival for a group photo.

Sunday School Communications- Throughout the year, our Directors and Sunday School teachers will be in touch with you via text and email with Sunday School news, please be sure that we have your up-to-date contact information. Some of you may have already received the message. If you didn't get the text, please do the following: Text **@stlukes23** to 81010 – see below:



In addition, join us on Facebook and Instagram for updates, photos, community service opportunities and more:

Facebook:



<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1572M7Nvic/>,

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/stlukesundayschool?igsh=MTk2dm5vb2llcHJzZw==>.



Sunday School Thanksgiving Outreach- The St. Luke Sunday School is currently collecting Thanksgiving-themed paper plates, napkins, cups, tablecloths, aluminum pans, and serving spoons for a Thanksgiving meal for 300 incarcerated women at the Philadelphia Industrial Corrections Center (PICC). This annual Sunday School outreach to 300 women incarcerated on the Thanksgiving holiday is coordinated with the charity Why Not Prosper, which serves both presently and previously incarcerated women by offering them a hand up, not a hand out (<https://www.why-not-prosper.org/>). If you can contribute to this initiative, please use this link to commit to donating one or more items:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B48AFAD2CA6FC1-51284934-thanksgivingtheme>

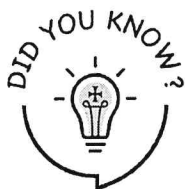
Items may be left in the bin in the lobby of the Education Building until **Friday, November 10, 2024**. Donations cannot be accepted after Nov. 10 as we will be delivering our items to Why Not Prosper that week. We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and for teaching our children by your actions to follow our Lord's teaching: ***'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'* Matthew 25: 40.**

2025 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival- As soon as the 2025 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival topics are released, we will send them to the teachers and to the families of 7th -9th graders (Junior Division), and 10th-12th graders (Senior Division). The Festival begins at the parish level, then successful participants may advance to the District, Metropolis, then National levels. Here is some general information about the Oratorical Festival: participants at the National Finals receive awards from the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival Scholarship Fund, ranging from \$500 to \$2000, the Faith Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism Scholarships, and the Chrysostom Scholarship Program of Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology.

Parents, please discuss this opportunity for your children to deepen their faith by asking them to review the topics, when released, and by encouraging them to participate in the first step of the Oratorical Festival ladder, the St. Luke Parish Oratorical Festival. Further details will be forthcoming, but the parish festival is projected to take place in either February or March 2024. For questions about the Parish Oratorical Festival, please contact Art Karros, akarros@gmail.com, or Peter Pavlis, ppavlis7104@gmail.com.

Readers for Divine Liturgy- Please encourage your children to **volunteer to read the Epistle or the Communion Prayer** during Divine Liturgy. This is a great way for your child to become involved in the worship of our faith. We will send you the reading(s) ahead of time so that your child can practice and become comfortable with the texts beforehand. Contact Directors at stlukesundayschool@gmail.com.

Online Resources for Parents, Sunday School teachers, Catechumens, and Young People



Did You Know?

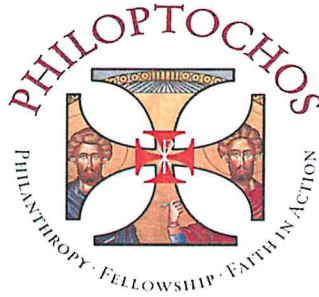
Your go-to source for concise answers to a wide range of questions asked by the faithful about the Greek Orthodox faith. Equips Gen Z and millennials and all faithful — with facts they can trust and easily absorb. Clergy, parishes, religious educators, and parents can share them. Go to <https://www.goarch.org/departments/religiousused/didyouknow> to see the answers to previous topics or send questions to religiousused@goarch.org.



Sunday Sermon Series

Easy-to-download weekly sermons for clergy, educators and faithful, based on the upcoming Sunday Gospels. Each week, a new sermon is released for each Sunday of the ecclesiastical year. The SSS includes the Gospel reading along with insights and analysis:
<https://www.goarch.org/departments/religiousused/sermons/sunday>.

Questions about Sunday School? Please contact our Directors, Jane Kelly, Panayota Kevgas, and Sophia Milinkovic at stlukesundayschool@gmail.com for more information about Sunday School. Or, visit <https://www.ss.st-luke.org>, which will be updated throughout the year with additional information and resources for families.



Philoptochos Society News

SAVE THE DATES

St. Luke Name Day Vespers
Thursday, October 17, 2024

St. Luke Name Day Luncheon
Friday, October 18, 2024

General Assembly
Wednesday, October 23, 2024

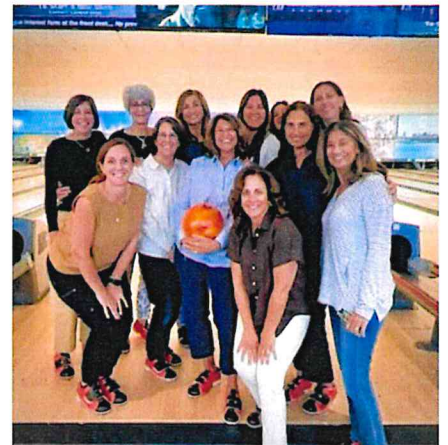
Wreath Making Workshop
Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024

Tenth Annual Boutiques and Greek Treats
Saturday, Dec. 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024

Fall Raffle
Drawing during Boutiques & Greek Treats
Sunday, December 8, 2024

Coffee Hour Volunteers- The coffee hour schedule for volunteers has been released for this year and may be found elsewhere in this Epistle. Please look for your name and, hopefully, you will be able to come and volunteer on the day that you are assigned. If you cannot make it for that day, please find a replacement. We thank you all for your help. Betsy Pappas and Diana Palumbo, Chairladies

Membership Engagement Committee- On Friday, September 6th, 2024, at Sproul Lanes, an enthusiastic group of Philoptochos members enjoyed an evening of fun and fellowship at the first membership event of the new Ecclesiastical year. The Engagement Committee was excited to plan a new, different way to engage our ladies and, by all accounts, everyone had a great time! Whether they'd had bowling experience or had never picked up a bowling ball before, everyone was "game" to try! Yes, there were a few gutter balls that elicited laughs or groans, but there were many strikes and spares that brought cheers and high fives! Ribbons were given out to highest scorers and good sports. Between games, players enjoyed pizza and beverages and then joyfully celebrated the birthdays of five September babies with cake and song. Special birthday wishes and thanks to



Nikki Serafim, our corresponding secretary, for spending her birthday night with us. She truly is a team player! The Membership Engagement Committee looks forward to planning more activities and encourages all members to join us for future events. Please reach out and share ideas with us on activities that might interest you. Thank you to all who supported the event and to chairperson, Alexis Limberakis, for organizing our bowling bonanza.

St. Luke Name Day Celebrations- Our Philoptochos will be hosting a St. Luke Name Day reception following Vespers on Thursday October 17, and a luncheon following liturgy on Friday, October 18. Volunteers are invited to help prepare and/or serve for these community events which honor our blessed Patron Saint. Chairladies Deme Peters (Vespers) and Diane Sioutis (luncheon) would so appreciate your help!

General Assembly- The first Philoptochos General Assembly of the year is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024. Please plan to attend and embrace the chance to learn about our plans for the coming year as well as opportunities for involvement. We look forward to another year of fellowship and philanthropy within our Army of Agape. Thank you!

Philoptochos Charity Committee- Books have been ordered for the **Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA)** third grade students. Volunteers under the guidance of Anna Hadgis will be going to CCSA to give the students their new books, and to encourage a love for reading in the young scholars. It is a pleasure to observe the students, and to watch their interactions with their peers, when they are reading the story. The Charity Committee has supported the third-grade students at CCSA for many years now, and, every year, following the suggestions of the teachers, selected books appropriate for their grade. Our Philoptochos has a wonderful relationship with CCSA!

**Information for all Philoptochos Charity Events may be found on the Philoptochos website under the Donate tab.*

Boutiques & Greek Treats Wreath Workshop- You are invited to the Ladies Philoptochos Boutiques & Greek Treats Wreath Workshop! The event will be held again this year in the Community Center at St. Luke's on Sunday, December 1 at 3pm. BYOB and bring a friend, your own hand pruners and glue guns! Appetizers and treats will be served! Tickets are \$35 for Philoptochos members (\$40 for non-members) and include the second wreath you make. Your first creation will be donated for Boutiques and Greek Treats. There is limited space so please reserve your spot by November 22nd by visiting St Luke's Philoptochos website: <https://www.stlukephiloptochos.org/>.

10th Annual Boutiques & Greek Treats 2024- "Save the dates"! Saturday & Sunday, December 7 (10-4) & 8 (12-4). Join us for Greek lunch, pastries, raffles, wreaths, holiday decor, Yia Yia's Attic, craft and vendor shopping! Look for our flyers with information about "what and when" to donate to Yia Yia's Attic. Questions, to volunteer, or interested vendors, contact us at 610-353-1592, 610-246-7163, boutiquesgt@gmail.com or boutiquesgt@stlukephiloptochos.org. We thank you for supporting our fundraiser!

Fall Raffle- Back by popular demand from our Ladies Philoptochos. Purchase a chance to win a luxurious getaway in historic Cape May! \$20 per ticket. The winner will receive a \$1000 gift card to any of the luxurious and romantic Cape Collection Resorts PLUS \$225 in dining gift cards. Total value \$1,225! No date restrictions apply. Please visit stlukephiloptochos.org to purchase your tickets. Drawing to be held Sunday, December 8, 2024 at Boutiques and Greek Treats in the St. Luke Community Center. Winner need not be present. Please see the flyer elsewhere in this Epistle for additional details. Proceeds to benefit the charitable works of Philoptochos.

Philoptochos Stewardship Information- January was St. Luke Philoptochos' Stewardship month, but we continue to gratefully accept your 2024 commitment through the end of the year. Your support is vital to ensuring our positive impact on local, national and international charities. To fulfill our charitable mission,

it is crucial to have the full participation of you, our members. The minimum recommended stewardship amount is \$35; any additional offering above that will serve to enhance our philanthropic efforts. Please submit your check by mailing to St Luke Greek Orthodox Church, by hand delivering to the church office or by scanning the QR code below. Please note that members must be logged into the website to be able to access the form to pay online with the QR Code. We deeply thank you for your participation and generosity in our mission to serve those in need and are looking forward to working with you in the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 267.808.4160 or email at kiablazakis@gmail.com. Kia Blazakis, Membership Chair

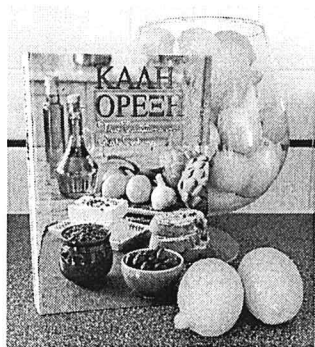


Sponsorship of Floral Décor- Icon and Floral Sponsorship opportunities are available throughout the year for ecclesiastic feast days. Sponsorship can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or for the well-being of your family.

Upcoming sponsorship opportunities include:

Thursday October 17 & Friday October 18 – Saint Luke

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 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.



**BOUTIQUES &
GREEK TREATS**

Collecting donations for
Yiayia's Attic



**Home & Holiday Decor
Collectibles Crystal
Jewelry Artwork China**

**We are not accepting books, DVDs
CDs, VHS Tapes, clothing or handbags.**

Drop off items in Board Room

Monday – Friday

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Deadline is Wednesday November 20

**"LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY"
ST. LUKE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**



St. Luke Ladies Philoptochos Presents

"Cape May Escape"
Raffle
Back By Popular Demand!

A 2-night stay in historic
Cape May, New Jersey



\$20.00
per
ticket



Drawing to be held on
Sunday, December 8, 2024 at
Boutiques and Greek Treats in the
St. Luke's Community Center

**Includes a \$1000 Gift Certificate for any
Cape Collection Resort
Plus a Dining Gift Card
NO date restrictions apply!**

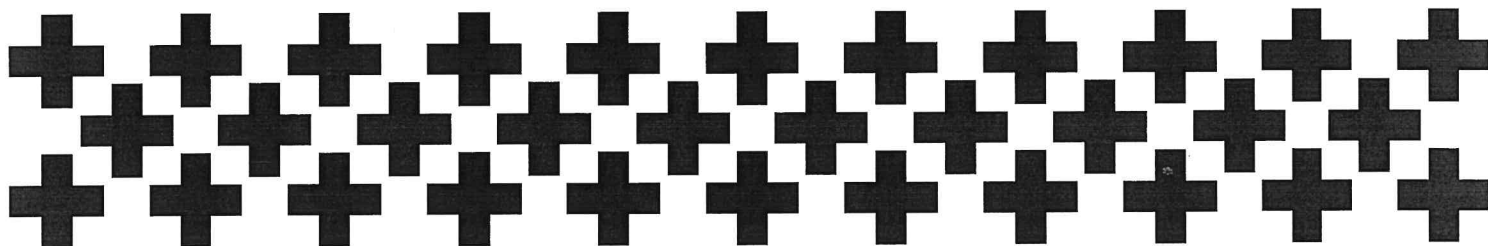
stlukephiloptochos.org to purchase your tickets

Need not be present to win.



American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive St. Luke's Greek Orthodox Church

**Community Center-Gym
35 N Malin Rd
Broomall, PA 19008**

**Monday, November 11, 2024
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
STLUKESPA to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions
on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®

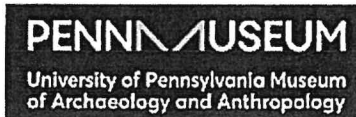
**Come give blood Nov. 1-17 and get a \$10 gift card by
email. PLUS, get a chance to win a \$7,000 prize! There
will be two lucky winners. Terms apply:
rcblood.org/thanks**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) | 2024-11-11 | 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM | STLUKESPA

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App



**Celebrating Cyprus' Cultural Heritage in American Life and Learning
The Penn Museum
Sunday, November 24, 2024, 2:00 - 5:00 PM**

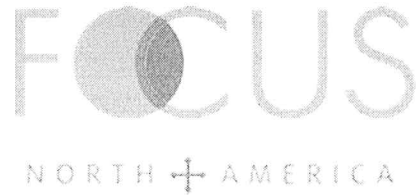
SAVE THE DATE! Enthusiasts of Cypriot food and culture, lovers of archaeology, members of Cypriot families eager to recover your origins and traditions, bring your love and your *kefi* to an afternoon of celebration honoring the millennia-long dynamism of Cyprus' cultural legacy. Two organizations that deserve your support--the **Cyprus Society of Greater Philadelphia** and the **Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI)** in Nicosia--are joining to offer an afternoon of Cypriot archaeology, culture, and cuisine at **The Penn Museum**. Admission to the Museum with special access to the Museum's recently installed Eastern Mediterranean Gallery is part of the event. The afternoon will include:

- * Guests will be greeted by Mr. Evangelos Savva, Ambassador of Cyprus to the USA
- * CAARI and the Cyprus Society will introduce their work fostering knowledge of Cyprus
- * Ambassador Savva and a panel of archaeologists from CAARI will discuss current archaeological projects on Cyprus and the opportunities they offer for students.
- * After a brief introduction to the Eastern Mediterranean Gallery, guests will be free to move through it and talk with Penn Curators about the Cypriot treasures exhibited there.
- * A reception will follow for all, featuring good Cypriot cuisine and Cypriot wine.

Tickets: \$75 per person

All proceeds go to the Cyprus Society's Scholarship Fund and CAARI's Fellowship Fund.
For information about registration, public transportation and parking, and opportunities to register your dietary preferences and accessibility needs, contact: anna.hadgis@gmail.com

Sponsorships are warmly solicited.



FOCUS North America is searching for a qualified candidate to fill the position of Center Director for its FOCUS Philadelphia ministry location. The time frame is **immediate**.



This is a part-time position.

Interested applicants can **use the QR code to view details** or send a resume to info@focusna.org.

Key Center Director Competencies:

- Service of vulnerable populations (low income, unhoused, etc.);
- Leadership & management (engaging volunteers, leading Advisory Board, etc.); and
- Finances and fundraising (managing budget, engaging donors, etc.).

Brief Summary of the Ministry:

- Coordinating existing Twelve Baskets Full ministry (meal distribution every Thursday); and
- Creation of new meal service and food pantry at Saint George Cathedral in Center City (for unhoused guests and visitors from nearby low income housing).

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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