



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
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News & Announcements
December 21, 2025

Sunday before the Nativity
Κυριακή προ της Χριστου Γεννησεως



AHEPA Chapter #277 Meeting After Coffee Hour

Forefeast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ 12/21/2025

Juliana of Nicomedia & her 630 Companion Martyrs 12/21/2025

Themistocles the Martyr of Myra 12/21/2025

Peter, Metropolitan of Moscow 12/21/2025

Morning Matins 9:00 am
Morning Great Doxology starts at 9:45 am
Morning Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

The Sunday Epistle Reading

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:9-10; 32-40

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς τῶν Πατέρων ἡμῶν.

Στίχ. Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἷς ἐποίησας ἡμῖν.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 11:9-10, 32-40 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, πίστει παρώκησεν Ἀβραὰμ εἰς τὴν γῆν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας ὡς ἀλλοτρίαν, ἐν σκηναῖς κατοικήσας μετὰ Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ τῶν συγκληρονόμων τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τῆς αὐτῆς· ἐξεδέχετο γὰρ τὴν τοὺς θεμελίους ἔχουσαν πόλιν, ἧς τεχνίτης καὶ δημιουργὸς ὁ Θεός. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείπει γάρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαράκ τε καὶ Σαμψών καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυῖδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν, οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων· ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι

δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πεῖραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον, περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι, ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιός ὁ κόσμος, ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσι καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὁπάϊς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ Θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρείττον τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσι.

The Sunday Gospel Reading
The Gospel According to Matthew 1:1-25

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 1:1-25
Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Βίβλος γενέσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, υἱοῦ Δαυῖδ υἱοῦ Ἀβραάμ. Ἀβραάμ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰσαάκ, Ἰσαάκ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰακώβ, Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰούδαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ, Ἰούδας δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Φαρὲς καὶ τὸν Ζαρὰ ἐκ τῆς Θάμαρ, Φαρὲς δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἑσρῶμ, Ἑσρῶμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀράμ, Ἀράμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀμιναδάβ, Ἀμιναδάβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ναασσών, Ναασσών δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαλμών, Σαλμών δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Βοὺζ ἐκ τῆς Ῥαχάβ, Βοὺζ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ὠβὴδ ἐκ τῆς Ῥούθ, Ὠβὴδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰεσσαί, Ἰεσσαὶ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Δαυῖδ τὸν βασιλέα. Δαυῖδ δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐγέννησε τὸν Σολομῶνα ἐκ τῆς τοῦ Οὐρίου, Σολομὼν δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ῥοβοάμ, Ῥοβοάμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀβιά, Ἀβιά δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀσά, Ἀσά δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωσαφάτ, Ἰωσαφάτ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωράμ, Ἰωράμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ὀζιαν, Ὀζίας δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωάθαμ, Ἰωάθαμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀχαζ, Ἀχαζ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐζεκίαν, Ἐζεκίας δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Μανασσῆ, Μανασσῆς δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀμὼν, Ἀμὼν δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωσίαν, Ἰωσίας δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰεχονίαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλῶνος.

Μετὰ δὲ τὴν μετοικεσίαν Βαβυλῶνος Ἰεχονίας ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαλαθιήλ, Σαλαθιήλ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ζοροβάβελ, Ζοροβάβελ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀβιούδ, Ἀβιούδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλιακεῖμ, Ἐλιακεῖμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀζώρ, Ἀζώρ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Σαδώκ, Σαδώκ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἀχείμ, Ἀχείμ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλιούδ, Ἐλιούδ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἐλεάζαρ, Ἐλεάζαρ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ματθάν, Ματθάν δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰακώβ, Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησε τὸν Ἰωσήφ τὸν

ἄνδρα Μαρίας, ἐξ ἧς ἐγεννήθη Ἰησοῦς ὁ λεγόμενος Χριστός. Πᾶσαι οὖν αἱ γενεαὶ ἀπὸ Ἀβραὰμ ἕως Δαυὶδ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ Δαυὶδ ἕως τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλῶνος γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλῶνος ἕως τοῦ Χριστοῦ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες.

Τοῦ δὲ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἡ γέννησις οὕτως ἦν. μνηστευθείσης γὰρ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ Μαρίας τῷ Ἰωσήφ, πρὶν ἢ συνελθεῖν αὐτοὺς εὐρέθη ἐν γαστρὶ ἔχουσα ἐκ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου. Ἰωσήφ δὲ ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς, δίκαιος ὢν καὶ μὴ θέλων αὐτὴν παραδειγματίσαι, ἐβουλήθη λάθρα ἀπολῦσαι αὐτήν. ταῦτα δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐνθυμηθέντος ἰδοὺ ἄγγελος Κυρίου κατ' ὄναρ ἐφάνη αὐτῷ λέγων· Ἰωσήφ υἱὸς Δαυὶδ, μὴ φοβηθῆς παραλαβεῖν Μαριάμ τὴν γυναῖκά σου· τὸ γὰρ ἐν αὐτῇ γεννηθὲν ἐκ Πνεύματός ἐστιν Ἁγίου. τέξεται δὲ υἱὸν καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν· αὐτὸς γὰρ σώσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτῶν. Τοῦτο δὲ ὅλον γέγονεν ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ρηθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου λέγοντος· ἰδοὺ ἡ παρθένος ἐν γαστρὶ ἔξει καὶ τέξεται υἱόν, καὶ καλέσουσι τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἑμμανουήλ, ὃ ἐστὶ μεθερμηνευόμενον μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός. Διεγερθεὶς δὲ ὁ Ἰωσήφ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὕπνου ἐποίησεν ὡς προσέταξεν αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος Κυρίου καὶ παρέλαβε τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐγίνωσκεν αὐτήν ἕως οὔ ἔτεκε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτῆς τὸν πρωτότοκον, καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰησοῦν.



Christmas December 24th Wednesday Evening Service
With Holy Communion

Matins for Christmas starting at 6:00 pm
Great Doxology for Christmas starting at 6:50 pm
Divine Liturgy for Christmas starting at 7:00 pm



To Our Visitors and Guests

We welcome you to worship with us today, whether you are an Orthodox Christian or this is your first visit to an Orthodox Church, we are pleased to have you with us. Although Holy Communion and other Sacraments are offered only to baptized and chrismated (confirmed) Orthodox Christians in good standing with the Church, all are invited to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) from the priest at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The Antidoron is not a sacrament, but it is reminiscent of the agape feast that followed worship in the ancient Christian Church. After the Divine Liturgy this morning please join us in the Church Hall for fellowship and refreshments. Please complete a Visitor's Card before you leave today and drop it in the offering tray, or give it to one of the parishioners after the service, or mail it to the Church Office.



Ακολουθία των Χριστουγεννών

Τεταρτη Βραδυ 24 Δεκεμβριου

Ορθρος 6:00 μ.μ.

Δοξολογια 6:50 μ.μ.

Θεια Λειτουργια των Χριστουγεννών 7:00 μ.μ.



THANK YOU FOR THE 2025 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This was a most enjoyable pageant. The proud parents, the little ones with their adorable costumes, the narration, and the wondrous star all helped to celebrate the joy of the birth of our Lord.

My heart and soul were uplifted by the love that was shared by all in Christ's name.

You have made Christmas Merry with your wonderful presentation in Church.

God bless all those who worked to bring this presentation to our Saint Barbara Family.

Feast of Saint Stephen, Archdeacon & First Martyr

Saturday, December 27 Matins & Divine Liturgy starting at 9:00 am



Saint Stephen was a Jew, by race, and, as some say, a disciple of Gamaliel, the teacher of the Law mentioned in Acts 5:34 and 22:3. He was the first of the seven deacons whom the Apostles established in Jerusalem to care for the poor, and to distribute alms to them. Being a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, he performed great signs and wonders among the people. While disputing with the Jews concerning Jesus, and wisely refuting their every contradiction, so that no one was able to withstand the wisdom and the spirit whereby he spake, he was slandered as a blasphemer and was dragged off to the Sanhedrin of the elders. There with boldness he proved from the divine Scriptures the coming of the Just One (Jesus), of Whom they had become the betrayers and murderers, and he reproved their faithless and hardheartedness. And finally, gazing into Heaven and beholding the divine glory, he said: "Lo, I see the Heavens opened and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But when they heard this,

they stopped up their ears, and with anger cast him out of the city and stoned him, while he was calling out and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then, imitating the long-suffering of the Master, he bent his knees and prayed in a loud voice for them that were stoning him, and he said, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," And saying this, he fell asleep (Acts 6, 7), thus becoming the first among the Martyrs of the Church of Christ.

Στέφανος Πρωτομάρτυς - Σαββατο, 27 Δεκεμβρίου

Ορθρος και Θεια Λειτουργια αρχιζοντας στις 9:00 πμ

Άπολυτίκιον Στεφάνου Πρωτομάρτυρος

**Βασίλειον διάδημα, εστέφθη σή κορυφή, εξ άθλων ών υπέμεινας, υπέρ Χριστού
τού Θεού, Μαρτύρων πρωτόαθλε, σύ γάρ τήν Ιουδαίων, απελέγξας μανίαν,
είδές σου τόν Σωτήρα, τού Πατρός δεξιόθεν, Αυτόν ούν εκδυσώπει αεί, υπέρ
τών ψυχών ημών.**

Living the Joy of Christmas All Year

There is a famous line in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* you may know. Ebenezer Scrooge proclaims, "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year!" as his redemption unfolds.

Doesn't that proclamation sound nice?

Christmas for many is a joyous time. The season brings nostalgia and warm memories from timeless holiday traditions. Christmas decorations, trees, and lights provide delight and cheer. Festive parties, tasty foods, presents, and family gatherings generate anticipation and excitement. Plus, who could forget all those classic Christmas movies and songs playing on full blast?

Yet Christmas eventually comes to an end. The decorations get put away, and we go back to our normal rhythms and routines. This holiday letdown leaves many saying, "*I wish Christmas could last all year!*"

Well, we have some good news. There are ways you can live the joy of Christmas all year long, well after the lights and ornaments disappear. These principles are rooted in the joy that Christ gives us as his followers. This joy is more than seasonal traditions, events, and presents. It's an abiding joy that lasts!

Read on to see practical ways you can keep Christmas going all year, so the familiar holiday joy you love can continue every day.

Celebrate Jesus throughout the year

While the gifts, decorations, and movies make Christmas fun, Christ is the real reason we celebrate each December. We remember how Christ came down to earth born as a baby for us, so that through him we can live (Matthew 1:21). This truth is profound and worth celebrating all year.

This Christmas, make time to remember the birth of Christ. Spend time with Jesus and be thankful and filled with joy. Psalm 16:11 says we are filled with joy in his presence.

You will show me the path of life;

In Your presence *is* fullness of joy;

At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

Psalm 16:11 (NKJV)

As we keep celebrating Jesus once Christmas ends, we can keep finding joy in his presence all year. The joy that Christ can only give isn't seasonal or based on circumstances. It remains with us at all times. Make time to celebrate Jesus and live out your joy at Christmas and every day of the year.

Live with a heart of gratitude

As we take part in holiday traditions, we're reminded of the simpler joys in life. Our hearts brim with gratitude for things that really matter, like faith, family, community, and rest. With this gratitude, we appreciate what we have, while what we don't have fades into the background.

Why can't this heart of gratitude extend throughout the year? In 2 Thessalonians 5:16-18, we're called to give thanks in all circumstances. Even with life's busy distractions, we can still choose to appreciate the things God has given us, beyond the holiday season.

Give to others

For most of us, Christmas is often filled with giving and receiving presents. We buy gifts for our family, our friends, our neighbors, our coworkers, and even our kids' teachers.

Giving someone a Christmas gift they love warms the heart. Yet a lifestyle of generosity beyond holiday gift-giving can bring joy year-round. Proverbs 11:25 reminds us that a generous person will prosper, and whoever refreshes others will also be refreshed.

Throughout the year, keep the season of giving alive by maintaining an outward focus. Give your time, your money, and your resources. You'll get many opportunities to give if that's your focus. The joy of giving will continue to warm your heart.

Spend time with the ones you love

At Christmas we make time for our families, taking off work to enjoy rest, fun, and festivities with the ones we love. We (hopefully) turn off our work phones and slow down, making treasured memories together.

Then life picks back up after the holidays and schedules get busy again. While some of this is inevitable, choose to make time with your loved ones a priority throughout the year. Block off time on your calendars if you must. As you do, you'll live in joy together with those who matter most.

Rejoice in hope

As we celebrate Jesus at Christmas, we're reminded of the glorious future we have in Christ, when he will return for us one day. This gives us hope, and that hope doesn't have to turn off once we stop hearing "Joy to the World" over the holidays.

In Romans 5:2, Paul tells us to rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. He doesn't tell us to do this only in December. Later, in Romans 12:12, Paul tells us again to rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, and be constant in prayer.

Throughout the year, difficult and painful times may come. The happy feelings of Christmas may fade quickly. The hope we have in Christ, which we're so often reminded of at Christmas, remains constant. If we continue to rejoice in that hope, the joy of Christmas can stay with us all year.



RELIGIOUS CALENDAR:

December 2025

24 – Wednesday - Christmas Evening Service – 6:00 pm

27 – Saturday Service for the Feast of St. Stephen – 9:00 am

January 2025

1 – Thursday-New Year's Day/St. Basil – 9:00 am

4 – Sunday Before Epiphany – 9:00 am

6 – Tuesday - Holy Theophany – 9:00 am

7 – Wednesday - Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist – 9:00 am

11 – Sunday after Epiphany – 9:00 am

17 – Saturday - Saint Anthony the Great – 9:00 am

18 – 12th Sunday of Luke – 9:00 am

25 – 15th Sunday of Luke – 9:00 am

30 – Friday – Feast of the Three Hierarchs – 9:00 am



Today's Scheduled Coffee Hour Hosts 12/21

AHEPA

Today's Scheduled Narthex Greeters for 12/21

James Branson

Carolyn Hack

Our Volunteer Chantors

Nicholas Georgiou

Pete Marinos

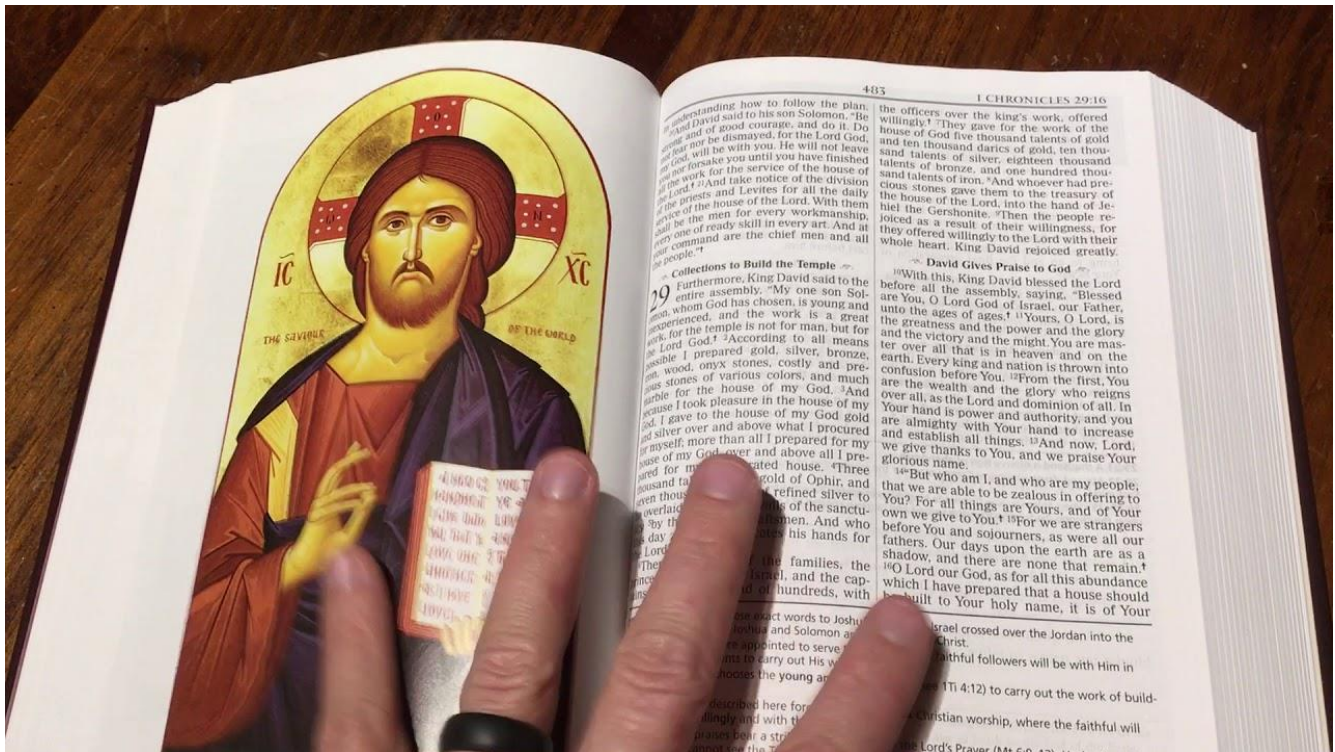
Our Volunteer Choir Directors

Panos Messis

Costa Constantinou

Our Volunteer Organist

Eleni Christakos



**ADULT BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME ON
TUESDAY JANUARY 13TH AT 6:30 PM
TOPICS TAKEN FROM THE SUNDAY LECTIONARY**

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

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Durham, NC 27713

919-484-1600

For information Contact

Father Stavroforos by Email

fatherstavroforos2012@gmail.com



Jesus

He came not to a throne,
But to a manger.

He lived not as a king,
But as a servant.

He chose not an earthly kingdom,
But a cross.

He gave not a little,
But everything

- *Holley Gerth*

Τι είναι τα Χριστούγεννα; Ο Χριστός γεννήθηκε, παιδιά του Θεού!

Τι είναι τα Χριστούγεννα; Πριν από τον Χριστό το ανθρώπινο γένος δεν ήξερε για την αγάπη του Πατέρα προς τα παιδιά ούτε των παιδιών προς τον Πατέρα. Όμως με τη γέννηση στον κόσμο του Υιού του Θεού, του Μονογενή, άνοιξαν τα μάτια στους ανθρώπους για έναν άγνωστο Γονέα στους ουρανούς και για τη μέχρι τότε άγνωστη αγάπη, την ουράνια.

Τι είναι τα Χριστούγεννα;

Τα Χριστούγεννα είναι η Αγαθή Ημέρα

**Το Αγιορείτικο Θυμίαμα είναι αυθεντικό μοναστηριακό προϊόν. Φτιάχνεται με προσωπική φροντίδα & προσευχή από κελλιώτες μοναχούς.
Αγοράστε το μοναδικό Αγιορείτικο Μοσχοθυμίαμα εδώ.**

Ο Χριστός γεννήθηκε, παιδιά του Θεού! Ήρθε πάλι η Αγαθή Ημέρα. Ο λαός ονομάζει Αγαθή Ημέρα όλες τις γιορτές που γιορτάζει.

Όμως τα Χριστούγεννα είναι η πρώτη χριστιανική Αγαθή Ημέρα, που με το φως της φώτισε τα παιδιά του Αδάμ και έβαλε τη χαρά στις ψυχές τους.

Η πρώτη γλυκιά μέρα στις πολλές χιλιάδες πικρών ημερών του κόσμου που δεν γνώριζε το Θεό, του ειδωλολατρικού κόσμου.

Τα Χριστούγεννα είναι η Αγαθή Ημέρα λόγω του αγαθού Βασιλιά, που τούτη τη μέρα επισκέφθηκε τον κόσμο.

Οι πόλεις σκαλίζουν στο ξύλο και στην πέτρα εκείνη τη μέρα, την οποία τους επισκέφθηκε ο κάποιος γήινος βασιλιάς. Εμείς ας σκαλίζουμε στις καρδιές μας την επίσκεψη του ουράνιου Βασιλιά. Το ξύλο θα σαπίσει, η πέτρα θα φθαρεί, ενώ εκείνο που είναι γραμμένο στην καρδιά θα ξεπεράσει το ναυάγιο του θανάτου και θα μπει στην αιωνιότητα.

Οι άγιοι άνθρωποι έχουν τη συνήθεια όπως ανασαίνουν έτσι στην καρδιά να αναφέρουν το όνομα του Βασιλιά Χριστού. Όταν τα θηρία σπαράξανε τον άγιο Ιγνάτιο στο Κολοσσαίο, βρέθηκε η καρδιά του ολόκληρη, και **στην καρδιά σαν σκαλισμένα δύο γράμματα Ι(ησούς) Χ(ριστός).**

Saint Barbara General Meeting Schedule

Philoptochos General Meetings

4th Sunday of Month after Church in the Conference Room

Philoptochos Board Meetings

Sunday prior to the Last Sunday of the Month after Church
at a TBA offsite location

Parish Council General Meetings

Second Monday of the Month by Zoom
or in the Conference Room 6:30 pm

UNC-OCF

Thursday Nights

7:00 pm – Panera Bread in Chapel Hill

Adult Bible Study

Tuesday Nights in the Conference Room 6:30 pm

AHEPA Chapter # 277

General Meetings Third Sunday of the Month after Church
in the Conference Room

Greek School & Greek Dance

Saturdays – Classrooms at Church