



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
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www.stbarbarachurchdurhamnc.com
News & Announcements
August 2, 2026

9th Sunday of Matthew
Η' Ματθαίου



Translation of the Relics of Stephen the Protomartyr 8/2/2026
Holy Glorious New Martyr Theodore of Dardanelles 8/2/2026
Phocas the Martyr 8/2/2026
Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury 8/2/2026
Photini the Cypriot and Wonderworker 8/2/2026
Basil, the Fool for Christ 8/2/2026

Matins – 9:00 a.m.
Great Doxology 9:50
Morning Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

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 be 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. We would appreciate you completing a stewardship form before you leave today and give it to one of the parish council members after the service or mail it to the Church Office at your convenience.

The Sunday Epistle Reading

Εὐξασθε καὶ ἀπόδοτε Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν.

ΣΤΙΧ. Γνωστὸς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ὁ Θεός, ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ μέγα τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 3:9-17 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, Θεοῦ γὰρ ἐσμεν συνεργοί· θεοῦ γεώργιον, θεοῦ οἰκοδομὴ ἐστε. Κατὰ τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ τὴν δοθεῖσάν μοι, ὡς σοφὸς ἀρχιτέκτων θεμέλιον τέθεικα, ἄλλος δὲ ἐποικοδομεῖ. Ἐκαστος δὲ βλεπέτω πῶς ἐποικοδομεῖ. Θεμέλιον γὰρ ἄλλον οὐδεὶς δύναται θεῖναι παρὰ τὸν κείμενον, ὃς ἐστὶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστός. Εἰ δέ τις ἐποικοδομεῖ ἐπὶ τὸν θεμέλιον τοῦτον χρυσόν, ἄργυρον, λίθους τιμίους, ξύλα, χόρτον, καλάμην, ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον φανερόν γενήσεται· ἡ γὰρ ἡμέρα δηλώσει, ὅτι ἐν πυρὶ ἀποκαλύπτεται· καὶ ἐκάστου τὸ ἔργον ὅποιόν ἐστὶν τὸ πῦρ δοκιμάσει. Εἴ τις τὸ ἔργον μένει ὃ ἐποικοδόμησεν, μισθὸν λήψεται. Εἴ τις τὸ ἔργον κατακαήσεται, ζημιωθήσεται· αὐτὸς δὲ σωθήσεται, οὕτως δὲ ὡς διὰ πυρός. Οὐκ οἶδατε ὅτι ναὸς θεοῦ ἐστε, καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ θεοῦ οἰκεῖ ἐν ὑμῖν; Εἴ τις τὸν ναὸν τοῦ θεοῦ φθείρει, φθερεῖ τοῦτον ὁ θεός· ὁ γὰρ ναὸς τοῦ θεοῦ ἅγιός ἐστιν, οἳτινές ἐστε ὑμεῖς.

**Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.
Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.**

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

**The Gospel Reading
According to Matthew 14:22-34**

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear. And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

**Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον
Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα 14:22-34**

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἠνάγκασεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς μαθητὰς ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὸ πλοῖον καὶ προάγειν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πέραν, ἕως οὗ ἀπολύσῃ τοὺς ὄχλους. Καὶ ἀπολύσας τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ ὄρος κατ' ἰδίαν προσεύξασθαι. ὁψίας δὲ γενομένης μόνος ἦν ἐκεῖ. Τὸ δὲ πλοῖον ἤδη σταδίους πολλοὺς ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἀπεῖχεν, βασανιζόμενον ὑπὸ τῶν κυμάτων, ἦν γὰρ ἐναντίος ὁ ἄνεμος. Τετάρτῃ δὲ φυλακῇ τῆς νυκτὸς ἦλθεν πρὸς αὐτοὺς περιπατῶν ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν. Οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης περιπατοῦντα ἐταράχθησαν λέγοντες ὅτι Φάντασμά ἐστιν, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ φόβου ἔκραξαν. Εὐθὺς δὲ ἐλάλησεν [ὁ Ἰησοῦς] αὐτοῖς λέγων, Θαρσεῖτε, ἐγὼ εἰμι· μὴ φοβεῖσθε. Ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν, Κύριε, εἰ σὺ εἶ, κέλευσόν με ἐλθεῖν πρὸς σὲ ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα· ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, Ἐλθέ. καὶ καταβάς ἀπὸ τοῦ πλοίου ὁ Πέτρος περιεπάτησεν ἐπὶ τὰ ὕδατα καὶ ἦλθεν πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν. Βλέπων δὲ τὸν ἄνεμον ἐφοβήθη, καὶ ἀρξάμενος καταποντίζεσθαι ἔκραξεν λέγων, Κύριε, σῶσόν με. Εὐθέως δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐκτείνας τὴν χεῖρα ἐπέλαβετο αὐτοῦ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ, Ὀλιγόπιστε, εἰς τί ἐδίστασας; καὶ ἀναβάντων αὐτῶν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ἐκόπασεν ὁ ἄνεμος. Οἱ δὲ ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ λέγοντες, Ἀληθῶς Θεοῦ υἱὸς εἶ. Καὶ διαπεράσαντες ἦλθον ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν εἰς Γεννησαρέτ.



SAINTS CELEBRATED TODAY



Saint Phocas was a gardener in a small village on the south coast of the Black Sea. He lived a simple life, carrying out acts of piety and love for all around him, even serving the pagans of the village, some of who left their ways and followed Christ. The local governor heard of this and sent soldiers to kill him. The saint stumbled upon these very soldiers and, without disclosing his name, ministered to them by receiving them into his home, feeding them, and giving them rest. That night he dug a grave for himself in his garden and prepared for all his possessions to be given away after his death. The next morning, Phocas disclosed to the soldiers that it was he whom they were seeking to kill. The soldiers were distraught, not

wanting to kill the saint who had shown them so much kindness. Phocas insisted that they must carry out their mission as he willingly laid his head beneath the sword. They proceeded to execute him and then bury him in the grave he dug in his garden. The site later became a source of miracles, and eventually a Church was erected upon it. Saint Phocas is frequently invoked for those who travel by sea. His life was recorded by Saint Asterius of Amasia.



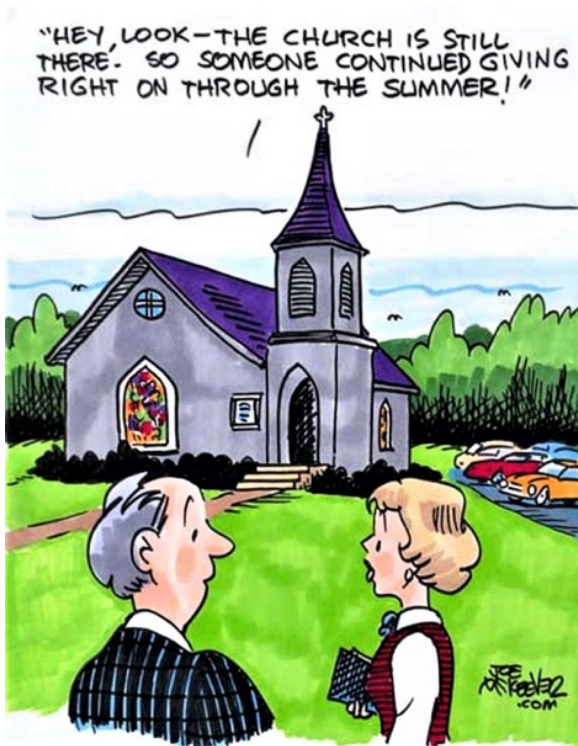
After the First Martyr had been stoned to death (see Dec. 27), Gamaliel, his teacher, encouraged certain of the Christians to go by night and take up the Saint's body and bury it in his field, which was at a distance of some twenty miles from Jerusalem and was called by his name, "Kaphar-gamala," that is, "the field of Gamala," where Gamaliel himself was later buried. About the year 427, a certain pious man called Lucian, who was the parish priest of a church near to that field, received from God a revelation in a dream concerning the place where the First Martyr was buried. He immediately made this known to John, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Thus, coming to the place indicated, and digging there, they found a box with the word "Stephen" in Aramaic letters. On opening it, they took

these most sacred relics and transferred them to Jerusalem with great honor and in the company of a very great multitude of the faithful.

PLEDGE APPEAL CAMPAIGN

Dear St. Barbara Parishioners,

Thank you for being a part of the St. Barbara's stewardship family. We are thankful for your time, talents, and treasures. As stewards we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from God.



We have had many added expenses this year: water damage, air conditioning, a new roof, and security to name a few. Prices have gone up, as we all are experiencing. It is the same for our beloved church. Our collective spiritual home belongs to all of us. We are hoping that you will prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship and mortgage fund contributions.

Stewardship covers the operating fund of the church allowing us to pay Father Stavroforos and run the parish. The mortgage fund pays our 1.6-million-dollar mortgage and keeps the doors open. While our festival and Taste of Greece help with our finances, they don't begin to cover our operating expenses and mortgage.

We are experiencing cash shortfalls, and we are asking you, our stewards, to help us through this time of need. We are grateful for your continued giving and appreciate your willingness to consider increasing your contributions.

In His Name,

The Parish Council



Today's Scheduled Coffee Hour Hosts 8/2

Parish Council

Today's Scheduled Narthex Greeters for 8/2

John Biggs

Kerri Zeferatos

Our Chanter

Gus Bouloubasis

Volunteer Choir Director Directing Today

Costa

Asst. Volunteer Choir Director /Church Office Asst.

Costa Constantinou

Volunteer Organist

Eleni Christakos

COMMUNITY NOTES

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

Do you have a business or a profession you would like to promote to over 300 individuals who will read your advertisement??!! You could be a **BULLETIN SPONSOR.**

Full Page (7.5 "x 10") - \$150 for one month, \$375 for 3 months

Half Page (7.5" x 5") - 90 for one month, \$225 for 3 months

Quarter Page (3.5" X 5") - \$55 for one month, \$137.50 for 3 months

Business Card (3.5" x 2") - \$20 for one month, \$50 for 3 months

AHEPA NEWS

AHEPA CHAPTER 277 is proud to announce a FALL DINNER-DANCE on SEPTEMBER 19. Tickets will be on sale in August. This annually proves to be a fun and tasty event!

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Our next Philoptochos Membership Meeting will be held on August 23 in the conference room after church services. There will be lots to discuss as we begin preparations for our upcoming events scheduled for the fall and winter.

Below is the coffee hour schedule for July through September. As a reminder, group responsibilities include making coffee, set-up, providing food/drink items and clean-up. The Designated Team Leader (*) will coordinate the coffee hour. If you cannot participate in your scheduled coffee hour, please try to change months with another member to ensure there are enough people for set-up and clean-up.

- July 12, Group D – Anne Dennos *, Catherine Mariakakis, Hope Odzak, Nikie Esquivel, Sharan Dababnah**
- August 9, Group E - Maria Easton *, Cindy Paliouras, Evelyn Panos, Iman Salib, Cleopatra Papanikas**
- September 13, Group F – Catherine Wilson *, Amy Glekas, Evelyn Zehia, Rebecca Theophanous, Theky Pappas**

Evelyn Panos and Cindy Paliouras want you to keep FRIDAY AUGUST 21 & SATURDAY AUGUST 22 in mind, to help with the prep and assembly of large pans for the TASTE OF GREECE event in OCTOBER.

AUGUST ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE

Worship Dates:

8/2 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM

8/9 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM (Visiting Priest -Fr. Gregory Waynick)

8/15 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM Dormition of the Theotokos

8/16 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM

8/23 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM

8/30 MATINS AND DIVINE LITURGY 9AM

Informed Orthodoxy Class will resume on Tuesday 8/18, 6:30 PM

This abbreviated schedule is due to the fact, Father Stavroforos has scheduled hand surgery on August 4th. His doctor has suggested that he not start services until August 15th.

PLEASE KEEP FATHER IN YOUR PRAYERS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SURGERY AND A SPEEDY RECOVERY! "PERASTIKA" 🙏🙏🙏

  LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C. Get reliable updates on local schools, development, businesses, community events, and life in the Bull City.  SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE	  LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C. Get reliable updates on local schools, development, businesses, community events, and life in the Bull City.  SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE	  LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C. Get reliable updates on local schools, development, businesses, community events, and life in the Bull City.  SCAN TO SUBSCRIBE
soduwelikelocal.news	soduwelikelocal.news	soduwelikelocal.news
Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.	Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.	Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.

SAINT BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Report from the Treasurer for the period January through June 2026

Financial Highlights

Revenue- Operating

- Stewardship was \$103 thousand vs. a budget of \$118 thousand resulting in a shortfall of **\$15** thousand
- Our festival gross income was over \$121K, expenses were \$59K, resulting in net revenue revenue of \$62K. Expenses were \$13K over last year.
- Total operating income was \$165K vs budget of \$195K, \$30K below projection
- Bank balance as of June 30 was \$40,621.

Operating Expenses:

- Total operating expenses were \$187K vs a budget of \$190K, \$3K below budget. Without the festival income, operating expenses would have been only \$125K.

Mortgage

- Mortgage donations were \$26K, cell tower income was \$13K, yielding a total income stream of \$39K.
- Bank balance as of June 30 was \$13,600.
- Mortgage expense was \$86.6K.
- **To meet mortgage payments, the church was \$47.6K short**

Summary:

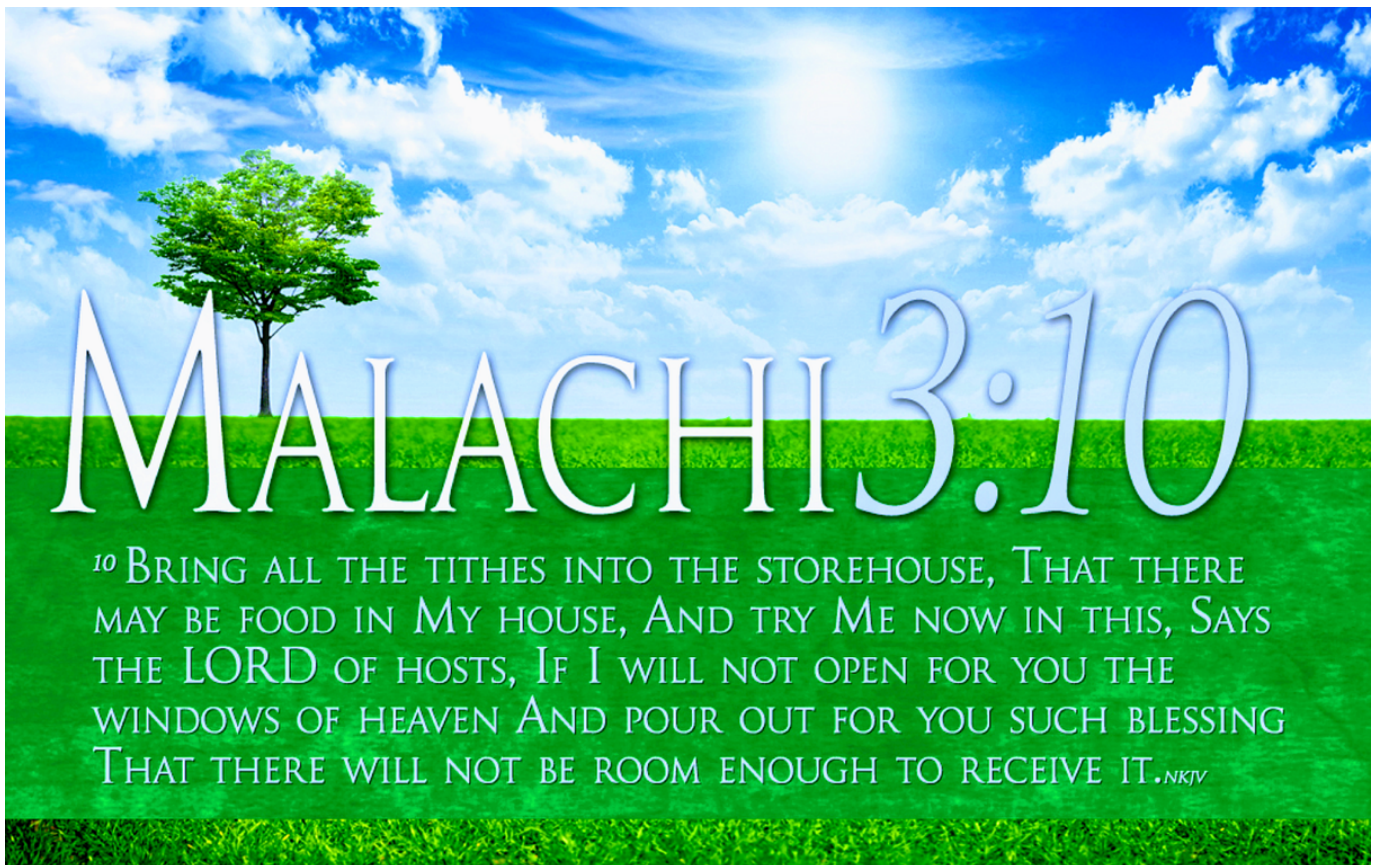
Total revenue to meet the church's basic operating expenses and mortgage commitment was \$204K. Total operating expenses and mortgage commitment was \$273.6K, **resulting in a six-month cash deficit of \$69.6K.**

Conclusion:

We are just managing to meet our operating expenses and will continue to. Our problem is the mortgage. I have looked at the past twenty years of minutes and financials and the problems were the same then as they are today. Read them and you find the same discussion. Nothing has changed. Over the past twenty years we have paid over **\$1.9 million in interest alone. That's million with a capital M.** Think how we could have used the money to rebuild the church, put in place improvements, school rooms, and transform the church into a glorious gem that it should be and as God intended. This will my final monthly financial report. I hate to repeat myself and the following months will only be the same result, besides I am running out of red ink.

The Treasure's Recommendation:

Everything we do is moot unless we payoff our mortgage. Therefore, I propose a "Burn the Mortgage Campaign". Contributions shall be made to pay off the mortgage without sacrificing stewardship donations. We should be a community united to endeavor in this campaign. I propose to erect a huge bronze kiosk prominently displayed on church grounds with the names of the donors. The highest doner will be center at top in prominent letters, followed by the rest of the doners in order of the amount of contribution (no dollar amount will be displayed, this is important, the same for the iconography). Our mortgage is coming due next year at the then prevailing rate. I don't want the church to continue another 15 years of mortgage payments. pledge I will not sign the renewal. I will ask father to kick off the campaign immediately.



Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in prayer for the following church members:

John Paliouras
Pete Marinos
Len & Elaine Goodwin
Betty Dorton
Thalia Becak
Agape Blackley
Preston Wilson

When God wants to have mercy on someone, He inspires someone else to pray for him, and He helps in this prayer.
~St. Silouan the Athonite

OrthodoxBible.app

O Lord Almighty, the Healer of our souls and bodies, You Who put down and raise up, Who chastise and heal also; do You now, in Your great mercy, visit our brother **(sister) (Name)**, who is sick. Stretch forth Your hand that is full of healing and health, and get him **(her)** up from his **(her)** bed, and cure him **(her)** of his **(her)** illness. Put away from him **(her)** the spirit of disease and of every malady, pain and fever to which he **(she)** is bound; and if he **(she)** has sins and transgressions, grant to him **(her)** remission and forgiveness, in that You love mankind; yea, Lord my God, pity Your creation, through the compassions of Your Only-Begotten Son, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-creating Spirit, with Whom You are blessed, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

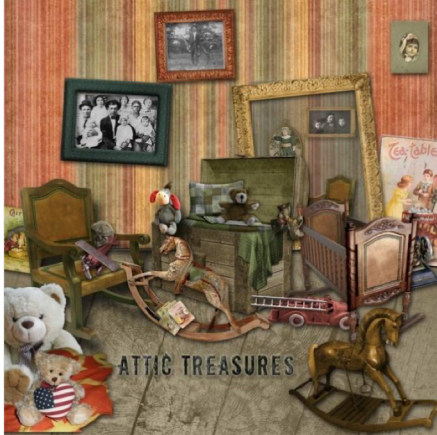
Prayers for the Departed

Gus Pantermakis

Charles Rupas

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL

If you have someone in your family that you would like for us to pray for, contact me by email or text at the following number and address: mrcmusicteacher@gmail.com or text (910)547-0123



*It's That Time
Again!*

We are once again seeking donations for the
ATTIC TREASURES SALE!

This successful fund-raising event has always been loved
by our patrons who come to the Taste of Greece event.

St. Barbara's Church welcomes your donations of a variety of items, in
excellent condition, for sale to the public at our
Attic Treasures Sale during the
Taste of Greece, October 10th and 11th, 2026.

If you are moving, downsizing or simply decluttering, this is a great
opportunity to donate your no longer wanted or needed items and to help
make this event a success! We are thankfully accepting:

Objects of Art, Greek Themed Items, Crystal, Silver, China, Icons, Jewelry,
Collectables, Hand-Made Items, Etc...

For easy drop off, special-labeled boxes are available for your donations
in the St. Barbara Storage Room.

Please contact Lisa Bouloubasis at lisa.bouloubasis@gmail.com or text
or call at 336-817-6090 with any questions.

Donation receipts for tax purposes
will be given upon request.

Thank you for your "Attic Treasures" donations!

SAINT BARBARA'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • DURHAM, NC

"Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you."

— 1 PETER 3:15

"Ignorance of spiritual matters is a darkness that creeps into the soul... We must learn, so that our faith is not just a habit, but a living, burning fire."

— SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS

INFORMED ORTHODOXY

For Present and Future Orthodox Christians

Inspired by the beautiful iconography and deep traditions of our sanctuary, Saint Barbara's is starting a new parish study series to bring the rich reality of our ancient faith into clear focus for all.

Informed Orthodoxy provides a welcoming, open forum to examine Holy Tradition, early Church history, the depth of our liturgy, and the practical rhythm of an intentional Orthodox life in a fast-changing world.

Whether you were raised cradle-born in the Church and want a powerful spiritual refresher, are newly illumined seeking a firmer theological foundation, or are a catechumen taking your very first steps, this class is built for you!

WHEN: Tuesday July 7th from 6:30 - 8:00PM

WHERE: The Church Fellowship Hall

LOCATION: Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
(Durham, NC)

COME WITH QUESTIONS. DISCOVER YOUR FAITH.

All are welcome. Refreshments will be served in the hall.

Contact Kohl Wouters to be added to the groupchat @ (440)789-8569