



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
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News & Announcements
August 23, 2026

12th Sunday of Matthew
IB' Ματθαίου



WELCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Our Holy Father Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons 8/23/2026

Lupus the Martyr 8/23/2026

Our Righteous Father Nicholas of Sikelion 8/23/2026

Our Holy Father Kallinikos, Patriarch of Constantinople 8/23/2026

Haralambos of Kalyviani 8/23/2026

38 Martyrs of Thrace 8/23/2026

Our Holy Father Irenaeus, Bishop of Sirmium 8/23/2026

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

Ψάλατε τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ψάλατε.
Στίχ. Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κροτήσατε χεῖρας.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 15:1-11 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, γνωρίζω δὲ ὑμῖν, ἀδελφοί, τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ὃ εὐηγγελισάμην ὑμῖν, ὃ καὶ παρελάβετε, ἐν ᾧ καὶ ἐστήκατε, δι' οὗ καὶ σώζεσθε· τίνι λόγῳ εὐηγγελισάμην ὑμῖν, εἰ κατέχετε, ἐκτὸς εἰ μὴ εἰκῇ ἐπιστεύσατε. Παρέδωκα γὰρ ὑμῖν ἐν πρώτοις, ὃ καὶ παρέλαβον, ὅτι Χριστὸς ἀπέθανεν ὑπὲρ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ἡμῶν κατὰ τὰς γραφάς· καὶ ὅτι ἐτάφη· καὶ ὅτι ἐγήγερται τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ κατὰ τὰς γραφάς· καὶ ὅτι ὤφθη Κηφᾶ, εἴτα τοῖς δώδεκα· ἔπειτα ὤφθη ἐπάνω πεντακοσίοις ἀδελφοῖς ἐφάπαξ, ἐξ ὧν οἱ πλείους μένουσιν ἕως ἄρτι, τινὲς δὲ καὶ ἐκοιμήθησαν· ἔπειτα ὤφθη Ἰακώβῳ, εἴτα τοῖς ἀποστόλοις πᾶσιν· ἔσχατον δὲ πάντων, ὡς περὶ τῷ ἐκτρώματι, ὤφθη κάμοι. Ἐγὼ γάρ εἰμι ὁ ἐλάχιστος τῶν ἀποστόλων, ὃς οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς καλεῖσθαι ἀπόστολος, διότι ἐδίωξα τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ θεοῦ. Χάριτι δὲ θεοῦ εἰμι ὃ εἰμι, καὶ ἡ χάρις αὐτοῦ ἡ εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ κενὴ ἐγενήθη, ἀλλὰ περισσότερον αὐτῶν πάντων ἐκοπίασα, οὐκ ἐγὼ δέ, ἀλλ' ἡ χάρις τοῦ θεοῦ ἡ σὺν ἐμοί. Εἴτε οὖν ἐγώ, εἴτε ἐκεῖνοι, οὕτως κηρύσσομεν καὶ οὕτως ἐπιστεύσατε.

Sing praises to our God, sing praises.
Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 15:1-11

Brethren, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast -- unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

The Sunday Gospel Reading

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ματθαῖον
Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα 19:16-26

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νεανίσκος τις προσῆλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ, γονυπετῶν αὐτόν, καὶ λέγων· Διδάσκαλε ἀγαθέ, τί ἀγαθὸν ποιήσω ἵνα ἔχω ζωὴν αἰώνιον; Ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τί με λέγεις ἀγαθόν; οὐδεὶς ἀγαθὸς εἰ μὴ εἷς ὁ Θεός. εἰ δὲ θέλεις εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν ζωὴν, τήρησον τὰς ἐντολάς. λέγει αὐτῷ· ποίας; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε· τὸ οὐ φονεύσεις, οὐ μοιχεύσεις, οὐ κλέψεις, οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις, τίμα τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα, καὶ ἀγαπήσεις τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ νεανίσκος· πάντα ταῦτα ἐφυλαξάμην ἐκ νεότητός μου· τί ἔτι ὑστερῶ; ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· εἰ θέλεις τέλειος εἶναι, ὑπάγε πώλησόν σου τὰ ὑπάρχοντα καὶ δὸς πτωχοῖς, καὶ ἔξεις θησαυρὸν ἐν οὐρανῷ, καὶ δεῦρο ἀκολούθει μοι. ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ νεανίσκος τὸν λόγον ἀπῆλθε λυπούμενος· ἦν γὰρ ἔχων κτήματα πολλά. Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι δυσκόλως πλούσιος εἰσελεύσεται εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν. πάλιν δὲ λέγω ὑμῖν, εὐκοπώτερόν ἐστι κάμηλον διὰ τρυπήματος ραφίδος διελθεῖν ἢ πλούσιον εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰσελθεῖν. ἀκούσαντες δὲ οἱ μαθηταὶ

αὐτοῦ ἐξεπλήσσοντο σφόδρα λέγοντες· τίς ἄρα δύναται σωθῆναι; ἐμβλέψας δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· παρὰ ἀνθρώποις τοῦτο ἀδύνατόν ἐστι, παρὰ δὲ Θεῷ πάντα δυνατά ἐστι.

The Gospel According to Matthew 18:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

 	 	 
LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C.	LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C.	LOCAL NEWS MATTERS Independent neighborhood news for South Durham, N.C.
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SAINT OF THE DAY

The Holy Hieromartyr Irenaeus was born in Asia Minor about the year 120, and in his youth was a disciple of Saint Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna. Saint Irenaeus was sent to Lyons in Gaul, to be a fellow labourer of Pothinus, Bishop of Lyons (celebrated June 2), who had also been a disciple of Saint Polycarp. After the martyrdom of Saint Pothinus, Saint Irenaeus succeeded him as Bishop of Lyons. Besides the assaults of paganism, Irenaeus found himself compelled to do battle with many Gnostic heresies, against which he wrote his greatest work, *A Refutation and Overthrow of Knowledge Falsely So Called*. He was also a peace-maker within the Church. When Victor, Bishop of Rome, was prepared to excommunicate the Christians of Asia Minor for following a different tradition celebrating Pascha, Irenaeus persuaded him to moderate his zeal, and mediated peace. He made Lyons an illustrious bastion of Orthodoxy and a school of piety, and sealed his confession with martyrdom about the year 202, during the reign of Septimius Severus. He is not to be confused with Saint Irenaeus, Bishop of Sirmium, also celebrated today, who was beheaded and cast into a river in 304 under Diocletian.

SERVICE OF THE WEEK

**The Beheading of St. John the Baptist
Saturday, August 29
Matins and Divine Liturgy 9:00AM**

After John the Baptist had pointed out to the people the very Savior, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sin of the world" (Luke 3:2-18; John 1: 29-36), after all this, John sealed with his own blood the truth of his words and was made a sacred victim for the divine Law at the hands of a transgressor.

This was Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch of Galilee, the son of Herod the Great. This man had a lawful wife, the daughter of Arethas (or Aretas), the King of Arabia (that is, Arabia Petraea, which had the famous Nabatean stone city of Petra as its capital. This is the Aretas mentioned by Saint Paul in II Cor. 11:32). Without any cause, and against every commandment of the Law, he put her away and took to himself Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, to whom Herodias had borne a daughter, Salome. He would not desist from this unlawful union even when John, the preacher of repentance, the bold and austere accuser of the lawless, censured him and told him, "It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife" (Mark 6: 18). Thus Herod, besides his other unholy acts, added yet this,

that he apprehended John and shut him in prison; and perhaps he would have killed him straightway, had he not feared the people, who had extreme reverence for John. Certainly, in the beginning, he himself had great reverence for this just and holy man. But finally, being pierced with the sting of a mad lust for the woman Herodias, he laid his defiled hands on the teacher of purity on the very day he was celebrating his birthday. When Salome, Herodias' daughter, had danced in order to please him and those who were supping with him, he promised her -- with an oath more foolish than any foolishness -- that he would give her anything she asked, even unto the half of his kingdom. And she, consulting with her mother, straightway asked for the head of John the Baptist in a charger. Hence this transgressor of the Law, preferring his lawless oath above the precepts of the Law, fulfilled this godless promise and filled his loathsome banquet with the blood of the Prophet. So it was that that all-venerable head, revered by the Angels, was given as a prize for an abominable dance, and became the plaything of the dissolute daughter of a debauched mother. As for the body of the divine Baptist, it was taken up by his disciples and placed in a tomb (Mark 6: 21 - 29). Concerning the finding of his holy head, see February 24 and May 25.



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 8/23

Youth Parents

Today's Scheduled Narthex Greeters for 8/23

Carolyn Hack

John Valakas

Our Chanter

Gus Bouloubasis

Volunteer Choir Director Directing Today

Panos Messis

Asst. Volunteer Choir Director /Church Office Asst.

Costa Constantinou

Volunteer Organist

Eleni Christakos

COMMUNITY NOTES

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

Wouldn't you like to join and 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

Philoptohos

The general monthly meeting will meet today after our coffee hour in the conference room. All members are urged to attend.

YOUTH FALL **PROGRAMMING**

Start Date: September 13th

Sunday school contact person.: Catherine Wilson, Catherine Constantinou, Maria Easton

Sunday school teachers:

Catherine Wilson, Catherine Constantinou, Maria Easton

We typically have parents complete their registration on the start day.

Ideally, we would like to have a GOYA meeting after church on September 13th. This will be an information session for 8th-12th graders only and their parents in our Conference room.

Maria Easton will be the contact for GOYA.

We hope to have a GOYA calendar ready soon with our monthly meeting dates,

SUNDAY MEETINGS **CONFERENCE ROOM**

GOYA---2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

AHEPA---3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

PHILOPTOCHOS-4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Mariakakis
Fine Food & Wine



Serving the community since 1963!!

The Mariakakis family began serving Chapel Hill through a restaurant in 1963. Over the years, customers came to know the family not only for prepared meals but also for the ingredients, traditions and hospitality behind them.

In 1997, the family evolved the business into Mariakakis Fine Food & Wine, a specialty market focused on Greek, Italian, Mediterranean, Eastern European and international foods. The format changed, but the personal connection did not.

Today, customers still find family members behind the counter. That matters when a shopper needs the right cheese for a recipe, wants to compare olive oils or is searching for a product remembered from childhood.

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

(Memorial September 13)

John Stonestreet

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/call (910)547-0123



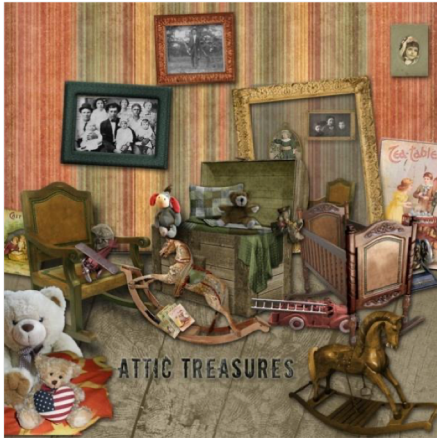
**THIS PAGE IS DEDICATED TO MARTHA LODEN THIS WEEK.
SHE HAS BEEN CHOSEN BECAUSE SHE BRINGS GOOD CHEER AND
HAPPINESS TO THOSE HOME BOUND AND IN NEED OF A SMILING FACE.
MARTHA BRINGS WITH HER A LOVING PRESENCE THAT BRINGS JOY TO THE
HEART.**

**STAY TUNED NEXT WEEK
THIS JUST MIGHT BE YOU!!**

+

If you begin to guard
wealth it will not be yours.
But if you begin to
distribute it, you will not
lose it.
~St. Basil the Great

 OrthodoxBible.app 



*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!

JOIN US FOR OUR

★ AMERICA'S 250th BIRTHDAY ★

Celebration Dinner Dance



BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR AN
EXCITING EVENING OF DINING AND DANCING!



Saturday,
SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

St. Barbara Fellowship Hall
8306 NC H-way 751, DURHAM, NC 27713



Doors Open
6:00 PM



Dinner
7:00 PM SHARP

MUSIC & DANCING

Our perfect and peerless DJ
SOTOS EFTHIMIADIS
will pick an exciting collection
of dancing music

and

MATCHLESS FOLK DANCE LEADER
HILSAVGI KONDIKIS-MANOUN
& ST. BARBARA'S FOLKLORE GROUP
will enhance our dancing!

BUFFET DINNER

Delicious foods prepared
by our own chefs

PRESTON WILSON
& **ANDREW CHRISTOUDIS**

HONOR SYSTEM WINE BAR



BUY TICKETS!

Buy tickets in person
Sundays after Liturgy
at St. Barbara's Fellowship Hall
AHEPA Table

CASUAL DRESS



SUGGESTED DONATIONS

Adults \$45 | Students \$25
Youngsters (Ages 7-12) \$15 | Children 6 & Under \$5



FOR RESERVATIONS & TICKETS
ahcpa277@gmail.com

or any member of the Durham AHEPA



AHEPA LIFELONG
USA - 250 YRS.
AHEPA - 104 YRS.
CH. 277 - 94 YRS.

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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: Every Tuesday 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*