



Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
8306 NC HWY 751
Durham NC 27713 910-547-0123
mrcmusicteacher@gmail.com
www.stbarbarachurchdurhamnc.com
News & Announcements
September 27, 2026

1st Sunday of Luke
A' Λουκᾶ



Callistratus the Martyr & his 49 Companions 9/27/2026
Mark, Aristarchos, and Zenon, Apostles of the 70 9/27/2026
Akylina the New Martyr of Thessaloniki 9/27/2026
Gideon the Righteous 9/27/2026

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.

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

Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 6:16-18, 7:1

Ἀδελφοί, ὑμεῖς ἐστε ναὸς Θεοῦ ζῶντος, καθὼς εἶπεν ὁ Θεός ὅτι Ἐνοικήσω ἐν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐμπεριπατήσω· καὶ ἔσομαι αὐτῶν Θεός, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται μοι λαός. Διὸ, Ἐξέλθετε ἐκ μέσου αὐτῶν καὶ ἀφορίσθητε, λέγει κύριος, καὶ ἀκαθάρτου μὴ ἅπτεσθε· κἀγὼ εἰσδέξομαι ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἔσομαι ὑμῖν εἰς πατέρα, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἔσεσθέ μοι εἰς υἱοὺς καὶ θυγατέρας, λέγει κύριος παντοκράτωρ. Ταύτας οὖν ἔχοντες τὰς ἐπαγγελίας, ἀγαπητοί, καθαρίσωμεν ἑαυτοὺς ἀπὸ παντὸς μολυσμοῦ σαρκὸς καὶ πνεύματος, ἐπιτελοῦντες ἀγιωσύνην ἐν φόβῳ Θεοῦ.



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

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

The Sunday Gospel Reading

The Gospel According to Luke 5:1-11

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 5:1-11
Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐστὼς ὁ Ἰησοῦς παρὰ τὴν λίμνην Γεννησαρέτ, καὶ εἶδε δύο πλοῖα ἐστῶτα παρὰ τὴν λίμνην· οἱ δὲ ἁλιεῖς ἀποβάντες ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀπέπλυναν τὰ δίκτυα. ἐμβὰς δὲ εἰς ἓν τῶν πλοίων, ὃ ἦν τοῦ Σίμωνος, ἠρώτησεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἐπαναγαγεῖν ὀλίγον· καὶ καθίσας ἐδίδασκεν ἐκ τοῦ πλοίου τοὺς ὄχλους. ὡς δὲ ἐπαύσατο λαλῶν, εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμονα· ἐπανάγαγε εἰς τὸ βάθος καὶ χαλάσατε τὰ δίκτυα ὑμῶν εἰς ἄγραν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Σίμων εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιστάτα, δι' ὅλης τῆς νυκτὸς κοπιάσαντες οὐδὲν ἐλάβομεν· ἐπὶ δὲ τῷ ῥήματί σου χαλάσω τὸ δίκτυον. καὶ τοῦτο ποιήσαντες συνέκλεισαν πλῆθος ἰχθύων πολὺ· διερρήγνυτο δὲ τὸ δίκτυον αὐτῶν. καὶ κατένευσαν τοῖς μετόχοις τοῖς ἐν τῷ ἐτέρῳ πλοίῳ τοῦ ἐλθόντος συλλαβέσθαι αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἦλθον καὶ ἐπλησαν ἀμφοτέρα τὰ πλοῖα, ὥστε βυθίζεσθαι αὐτά. ἰδὼν δὲ Σίμων Πέτρος προσέπεσε τοῖς γόνασιν Ἰησοῦ λέγων· ἔξελθε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ, ὅτι ἀνὴρ ἁμαρτωλός εἰμι, Κύριε· θάμβος γὰρ περιέσχεν αὐτὸν καὶ πάντας τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τῇ ἄγρᾳ τῶν ἰχθύων ἧ συνέλαβον, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Ἰάκωβον καὶ Ἰωάννην, υἱοὺς Ζεβεδαίου, οἳ ἦσαν κοινωνοὶ τῷ Σίμωνι. καὶ εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμονα ὁ Ἰησοῦς· μὴ φοβοῦ· ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἀνθρώπους ἔσῃ ζωγρῶν. καὶ καταγαγόντες τὰ πλοῖα ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, ἀφέντες ἅπαντα ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ.

TODAY'S SPECIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

Elena Messis and Christodoulos Messis
(Parents of Panos Messis)

8 years - Theodore Papas
(Grandfather of Zoe Papas)

The Parents of Panos Messis

ELENA MESSIS had graduated from the Gymnastics Academy of Athens, Greece. She then taught PE for a few years in Cyprus at the high school level, but then on her return back to Cyprus from New York she helped my father as an EEG technician.

Dr. Chris Messis, MD was a prominent Cypriot neurologist and was involved internationally in neurology. A *World Federation of Neurology* publication identifies him as **President of the Mediterranean Society of Neurology** in 2004.

He was also associated with the Cyprus Mental Health Commission and participated in international conferences concerning Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

He played a major role in establishing and curating the **Cyprus Medical Museum** in Kato Polemidia, Limassol. Contemporary material identifies him as **Vice President and Curator**, alongside Dr. Marios Philippou. Medical literature also lists Chris Messis as Cyprus's respondent in international neurological/headache-disease project.

A Cypriot neurologist who combined clinical medicine, professional leadership, international neurological cooperation, mental-health and dementia work, and the preservation of Cyprus's medical history through the **Cyprus Medical Museum**.



ON GIVING **TO YOUR CHURCH**

Giving tithes and offerings is a tangible way to acknowledge God's ownership of all we have

The cattle on a thousand hills are God's, along with everything that moves in the field (Psalm 50:10-11). The earth and all it contains is His (Psalm 24:1). Deuteronomy 8:16-18 says that it is not the power and strength of our own hands that produce wealth, but rather, God has given us the ability to produce it. Giving acknowledges the ultimate ownership of our wealth and the provision of a sovereign God in our lives.

Charitable giving is a tangible way to worship and show gratitude

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son" for us (John 3:16). God modeled giving for us, and we are called to do the same. Giving allows us to show our gratitude and appreciation for all God has done for us and is a barometer of our hearts. Giving is one area of the Christian life that cannot be faked; a person's checkbook or bank account shows what they value.

Giving is a way to show obedience to God's command to give

This reason alone should show why giving tithes and offerings is not a discretionary use of money. The command is clear in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 as well as Luke 6:38 and Proverbs 3:9-10. When Julie and I were first discussing giving, I had no idea this was something God commanded. Because I desired to please God, giving became a required part of our financial plan.

Giving tithes and offerings meets the needs of others

According to 2 Corinthians 9:12-14, if we are overflowing (or have more than we need), we should liberally meet the needs of the saints (others around us). But the Bible also talks about the reciprocal of that. If I had a need, someone else would have a surplus to meet my need: "Your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need." (2 Corinthians 8:14).

Charitable giving results in rewards in heaven

The Bible clearly states we will be rewarded for how we have used and invested our money (1 Corinthians 3:8-14; Philippians 4:17; Matthew 25:14-29).

How do we invest in heaven? We invest in people and encourage them to believe in Jesus Christ and grow in their knowledge and obedience to the Word of God. We can give to our local church or

missionaries, send youth on summer mission trips, help build structures, provide food for the homeless, pay rent for a needy family, send workers to help those in difficult situations or fund Bible translations.

There are countless organizations and opportunities to give of your time and money. I encourage you to find one that is meaningful to you.

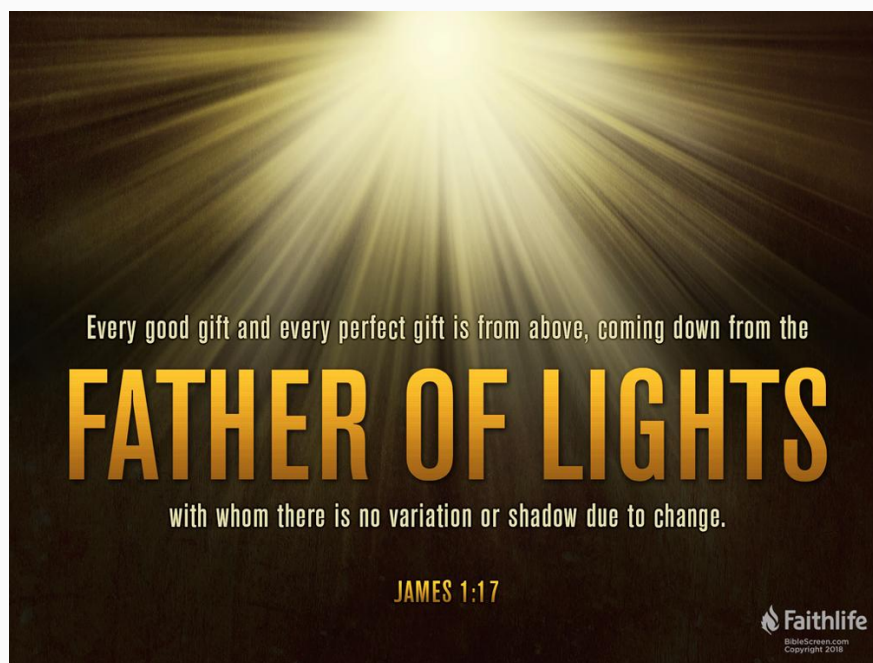
Giving, breaks the power of money

Luke 16:13 says that we cannot serve two masters, for either we will hate one and love the other or we will be devoted to one and despise the other. We cannot serve God and wealth. Giving allows us to hold our wealth with an open hand, puts God on the throne of our lives and reminds us that we are simply stewards of all God has entrusted to us.

Jesus could have listed many subjects in contrast to serving God. But He said money because money is the one thing in our lives that we feel can give us all the things we want (and that God wants to give us) – security, provision, power, contentment, self-worth and identity.

So how do we make sure God is on the throne of our lives and not money? We give. A disciplined pattern of regular giving breaks the power of money because giving becomes a natural and vital part of our lives.

Take a moment to reflect on what you give to our church. Would you consider increasing the amount to reflect today's high cost of living and the church's higher expenses incurred to run our church? We receive so much from St. Barbara and its services and programs given to us. It seems a little more of your help can make all the difference in the world!!





Today's Coffee Hour Hosts 9/20

Youth Parents

Today's Scheduled Narthex Greeters for 9/20

Carolyn Hack

Wes Platt

Our Chanter

Gus Bouloubasis

Volunteer Choir Director Directing Today

Panos Messis

Asst. Volunteer Choir Director /Church Office Asst.

Costa Constantinou

Volunteer Organist for 9/20

Costa Constantinou

Bulletin Sponsors

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



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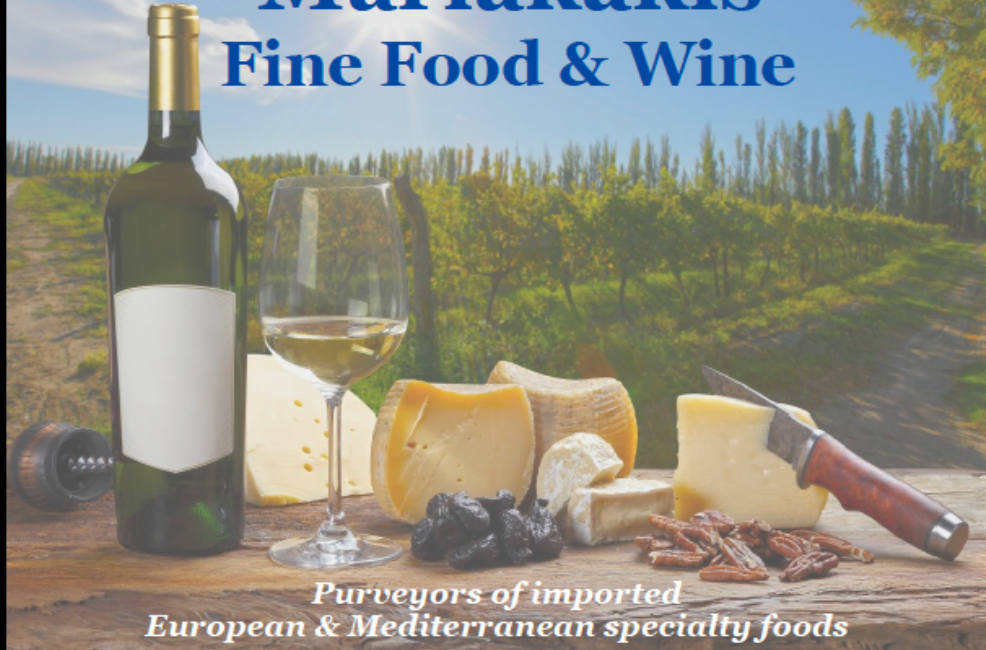
Mon - Wed 11- 2

Thurs - Friday 11 - 2 & 5 - 8

[984 439 8455](#)

  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
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Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.	Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.	Proud supporter of the St. Barbara community.

Mariakakis Fine Food & Wine



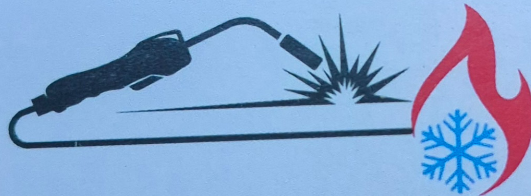
*Purveyors of imported
European & Mediterranean specialty foods*

Monday to Friday 9 to 6 • Saturday 9 to 5

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**Johnny Mariakakis
Owner/Manager
mariakakis@att.net**



ELLIOTT SERVICES

Kris Elliott

OWNER AND OPERATOR

919.740.3128

Kristhewelder@aol.com

**Heating & Cooling
Welding**

Hello St Barbara!!!

It's that magical time of year again. Pumpkin spice and everything nice, college football, temperatures are hinting at dropping and the Taste of Greece is here.

As you know, volunteering at the Taste is the highlight of the season for me. I can't wait to see you there! Please sign up today!

**Scan this QR code or go to
<https://tinyurl.com/3tsmr cdr> to
volunteer for the Taste of Greece 2026!**



Don't hesitate; sign up today. There is a job for everyone!	
Setup	Gyro Meat and Pita Cooking
Gyro Assembly	Food Prep
Cafeteria Line	Cashier
Taverna	Bakaliko
Pastry Prep	Pastry Sales
Cleanup	Floating
Questions? Reach out to Amy Glekas at asglekas@gmail.com or (765) 412-9077	

Sunday School

Has Begun!!

Sunday School Please take a moment to register each child in your family using our [Sunday School Registration Form](#). If you prefer, paper registration forms will also be available on Sunday.

As we begin the new year, we wanted to share a few reminders:

1. GOYA Kickoff – Grades 8–12

If you have a teenager in 8th–12th grade, we warmly invite them and their parents to attend our GOYA. If you have any questions, please contact mariaxenakiseaston@gmail.com.

The Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA) is a wonderful ministry that helps young Orthodox Christians strengthen their relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Through fellowship, service, education, and participation in the life of the Church, GOYA provides our young people with opportunities to grow in their faith and develop lasting friendships within our parish community.

2. Hope/Joy for Our Younger Children

We are still looking for parents who would be willing to form, lead, and organize Hope/Joy for our elementary and preteen children. This is such a special opportunity to help our little ones begin building a loving relationship with Christ and with their Church family. If you are interested in leading this important ministry, please speak with one of the Sunday School teachers.

3. Youth Sunday Coffee Hour

Youth Sunday coffee hour is held on the fourth Sunday of each month. Please check the weekly bulletin for reminders and dates. We ask that families bring an item to share with the community or paper products such as plates, napkins, or coffee cups. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and clean up after coffee hour. Even a little help makes a big difference! Thank you for helping make these gatherings a wonderful time of fellowship for everyone!

4. Children During Church & Sunday School

For the safety and well-being of all of our children, we ask that children either be in their Sunday School classroom or in church with their parents. Our Sunday School teachers are only able to be responsible for children who are attending their classes. We truly appreciate your help and cooperation with this.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our Sunday School and for entrusting your children to us. We are so grateful for the opportunity to share this journey of faith with your families. We look forward to a beautiful year filled with learning, laughter, fellowship, and growing closer to Christ together!

In Christ,

Catherine Wilson, Catherine Constantinou, Maria Easton

Prayers for the Sick

Please join us in prayer for the following church members:

Jill Snyder
John Paliouras
Pete Marinos
Len & Elaine Goodwin
Betty Dorton
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

May Their Memory Be Eternal:

Thalia Becak
(Mother of John Sempeles)

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 WEEK'S BULLETIN IS DEDICATED TO
PANOS MESSIS



As we memorialized Panos Mesis's parents, we are continuing in dedicating this bulletin to our Choir Director and their son Panos Mesis.

The first and foremost quality that makes Panos special, is the fact he is a true gentleman through and through. When he addresses people, he maintains a genuine love and respect towards them. His professionalism is always worn on his sleeve.

As a musician, he is impeccable. His directing can make 3 voices sound like 12. He directs the choir with a true sense of love for our church and for the members of the choir. His heart and soul are music. In my career of 50 years in music, Panos's improvisations during Holy Communion and the Recessional are an AMAZEMENT!

In closing Panos is always aware and sensitive to one's needs. Our choir members know it and our parishioners know it, and our church reaps the benefits of his presence and talents.

WE LOVE YOU PANOS!!!

STAY TUNED NEXT WEEK
THIS JUST MIGHT BE YOU!!

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

Join us for...

A TASTE OF GREECE



Sat. & Sun.
Oct. 10 & 11

11 am – 7 pm

Tented Dining or Take Out

Fabulous Greek Food & Desserts

Greek Market • Vendors • Crafts

Attic Treasures Sale • Church Tours

Free Admission • Rain or Shine

St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

8306 NC Hwy 751, Durham, NC

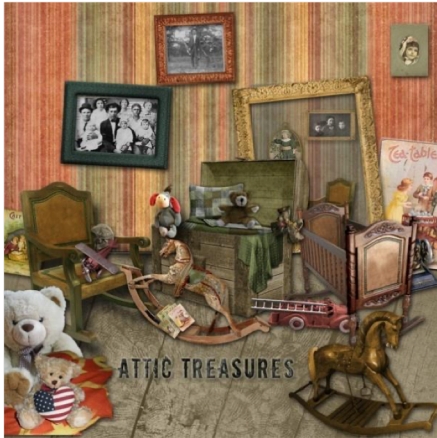
1/2 mile south of I-40 Exit 274

Event parking fills up fast; consider using a rideshare service

www.TasteOfGreeceNC.org

Tel. 919-484-1600

2026



**Deadline To Donate
Items Is Sunday,
October 3rd**

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 the 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.

**UPDATE: Volunteers needed for the afternoon shifts for the Attic
Treasure Sale.**

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

Donation receipts for tax purposes
will be given upon request.

*****Thank you for your "Attic Treasures" donations!*****