

# Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church

## June-July 2014 Bulletin

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### Whether Things Go Right or Go Wrong, Use Your Gifts and Talents Wisely: Community Life according to St. Paul

A Message from  
Presvytera Elizabeth

The Eucharist is the most central action in our life as a community. In 1 Corinthians chapter 11, St Paul describes how the church should celebrate the Lord's supper. We ought to approach Communion with faith and respect, and we need to discern that Communion truly is the Body and Blood of Christ. When we approach the chalice, we need to be free of all unforgiveness, particularly toward other people in our own community. As we approach the chalice and participate in it, we are one with Christ, but also one with each other.

As a church community, as with any community, we have times when we get along with everyone, and we also have other times which are more stressful. Interestingly, St Paul immediately continues his letter to the Corinthians by describing the different spiritual gifts and talents that various members of the community may have. Our participation in the Eucharist leads directly to our life as a community. Our various gifts complement each other and lead to a complete community life. These are gifts God has given each of us, which ought to be used for the common good.

On the other hand, it should never be that our individual sins complement other people's sins! If you have one fault, and your acquaintance at church has the same fault, church could become a place where you focus on this sin instead of on Christ and the community life. To take a farfetched example, if you would like to rob a house, and you know that a friend at church is particularly skilled at this particular crime and has an excellent set of skeleton keys, leave him alone! Do not use coffee hour as an opportunity for abetting someone else's bad habits. In this case, talk to the priest first and get over your own problem. Present it to God in confession. Then you will be able to talk with your friend about ordinary things and not lead him into temptation.

In 1 Corinthians 12, St. Paul describes these different gifts that Christians may have:

*“word of wisdom through the Spirit, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, and interpretation. And, God appointed apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healings, helps, administration, and tongues.”*

St Paul writes that each one of these gifts is to be used for the common good, and that the Holy Spirit works through each one of us. These gifts are to be used with discernment. This means we need to know how to use them wisely and kindly, and, what may be the most difficult, to keep silent when your gift is not called for. The Orthodox Fathers tell us that the greatest virtue of all is discernment, because it is the one that teaches us to understand all the others.

Now I will describe how all these gifts can be used together, using a very ordinary example. Let's say that it is someone's birthday. Those who are talented in cooking have made a beautiful cake. Others have decorated the hall. Someone has had the foresight to supply candles and matches. The guests are all ready and the guest of honor is present. One person lights the candles and volunteers to carry the cake out of the kitchen to the table where everyone is waiting.

So far, so good. It seems that everyone has used their gifts and various talents. Some of us are good at baking, some are good at decorating, some of us have the foresight and presence of mind to bring necessary items, and someone has generously sponsored the whole occasion financially. The person whose birthday it is has what seems like an easy job, just to sit and look pretty! Everyone else is just happy to celebrate their friend.

However, community life is not always like a perfect illustration. Sooner or later a crisis comes. In this case, the person carrying the cake is not careful. He trips and falls down and the cake breaks all over the floor. It is a huge mess. What to do?

Someone has the job of saying to the birthday person, "Aw, it's OK." Others will run and bring supplies to start cleaning up. Others will start rummaging through the kitchen to see what other treat they can quickly whip up. And, someone else will

continued on next page...

feel the need say to the person who dropped the cake, "You really should be more careful."

Each person has their job to do, and most of us will gravitate toward the thing that seems most natural to us. In this little crisis, the community pulls together to meet the new challenge. The mess is cleaned up, the guest of honor is comforted, another treat is concocted, and the celebration goes on.

Sometimes, however, the way to exercise our gift is to discern when it is NOT your turn to use it. If someone else is already cooking up a new snack, do you need to go into the kitchen to make a second one? Maybe you do, and maybe you don't. It might be your job just to enjoy and compliment the cook. Perhaps she will accept your compliment with greater joy, because she knows how talented you are yourself! Remember, the highest virtue is discernment, through which the Holy Spirit guides us to use our gifts for the good of everyone.

Likewise, if someone else says, "You really should be more careful," do you yourself need to say anything more? Likely the person who dropped the cake feels badly enough that no more need be said. Many of us have the gift of good observation and noticing when things are going wrong. Many of us have the gift of seeing exactly how other people could fix things. This gift also needs to be exercised in proportion to our faith, as St. Paul says. Sometimes a kind word spoken at the right time can be very helpful. But if it is spoken in the wrong way it can be ignored, or worse, cause a serious conflict. Sometimes the 'ripple effect' from that one comment can keep spreading for years! In the book of Hebrews, we are exhorted: "do not let a bitter root grow up to cause trouble" and trouble many people. Then you have a much greater problem on your hands.

One time I was watching a wedding rehearsal. It was time for the bridesmaids, flower girls, ring bearers, and ushers to practice walking down the aisle and lining up, on the solea, that wide step in front of the altar. By mistake, the bridesmaids were lining up shortest to tallest, while the ushers were lining up tallest to shortest. I was just sitting there in one of the front pews and I was about to say something to fix things. Then I realized that the talented wedding planner was perfectly able to make this adjustment, and indeed she noticed it about a minute later and fixed it. There was no need for me to interfere. I would have been an extra voice causing confusion. It was someone else's job. This is a very small example, but it reminded me that sometimes you can let go of a situation and let the people who are in charge get on with it. Sometimes it is my job just to sit quietly and smile nicely! This goes for all of us, not just me.

Now back to our illustration with the birthday party. While some people are doing their tasks of sweeping up, or cooking, or comforting, or scolding, what are the rest of us going to be doing? We are left standing there wondering what happened to our celebration. We could start whispering together about all the other occasions on which that person was careless. If

we like we can rake up events going back twenty years or more! Before we open our mouths, let's think about whether these comments are going to be helpful in any way.

Or, instead of whispering, we could complain to each other out loud. We might be so irritated that we don't care who hears us! Loud complaints can bring down the mood of a whole room even more than a dropped cake can! St. Paul, in plenty of other places in his letters to the Corinthians, warns us against both gossiping and complaining against each other. We do have another option. We can wait cheerfully and continue our conversations with each other and be ready to join in when the celebration starts up again.

A community that works together in this way, celebrating together our life in Christ, is a real blessing. We bear with each others' faults-- because we all have faults. None of us is better than another. Later in 1 Corinthians, St Paul writes that when we get together, each of has something to give, whether a psalm, or a prayer, or a teaching-- for the edification of everyone.

Let's try to ask the Holy Spirit to help us discern how and when we ought to use our skills and talents together. This is appropriate for a community that has become one through their sharing of Communion together. This kind of community is also the sure antidote to the loneliness that pervades our American culture.



*St. Paul Teaches the Corinthians*



## Life in Prison: A Lesson of Faith

By His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos

*Several months ago, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco received an unexpected letter. It was from four Orthodox men serving life sentences in a “concrete Jericho”—a maximum security prison in California—asking for the “unthinkable”: His Eminence to visit and bless the prison. “Struck by the intensity of their words,” he visited the men*

*during Great Lent, talking and praying with them and offering them Holy Eucharist. Afterward, His Eminence sent a thoughtful reflection to OCPM, which includes excerpts from the letters the men sent him. You can read his reflection here.*

*The location and identities of those involved have been omitted for their privacy.*

**It was a typical afternoon** in my office at the Metropolis of San Francisco. I was responding to phone calls, answering emails and sorting through my mail. I came across an envelope from someone whose name I did not recognize, but the return address was clearly from a prison. I opened the envelope, wondering who the sender was and what the content might be. Much to my surprise, the letter was from a group of four male Orthodox inmates wanting to share their personal stories with me about their journey with the faith along with a simple request that someday I might be able to visit. For the past six years, these men have been ministered to by one of our Metropolis priests, but they somehow felt compelled to write to me directly, seeking my blessings and visitation. Their sincere and humble words were also marked with doubt, knowing that many obstacles would need to be maneuvered, and that many other Christian leaders had previously tried unsuccessfully to penetrate the walls of the prison.

However, as great as these obstacles might be and regardless of the rigors of my schedule, I was struck by the intensity of their words: “We hope that more than ‘hearing of the ear,’ we will, God permitting, one day ‘with the eye see You,’ in the words of the Righteous Job (42:5). We pray that God’s providence will allow for Your visitation and blessing of this prison...where no Bishop of Christ has walked before. All four of us are serving life in prison, and so when we pray ‘For this holy House, and for those who enter it...’ we really mean the permanent place of our earthly sojourn”. Their letter continued, “Your Eminence, please pray for us, that Christ may complete what He has mercifully commenced in our lives. Pray that we may remain on the road of repentance and faith, that we may be obedient...and that we may keep in our hearts that ‘Pearl of Great Price’ which has thus far kept us.”

It was at that very moment I called the priest who ministers to these men and, through God’s grace, we were able to arrange a visit to the prison. Yes, there were obstacles; forms to fill out, security clearances and scheduling. Everything fell into place and our visit was scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2013. The day finally arrived and, as we traveled to the prison, I prayed for God’s guidance, wisdom and strength to provide for the spiritual needs of these men. Then, I looked up and facing me was a concrete city, surrounded by barbed wire with numerous guard towers watching over the prison. Accompanying me was the priest who has become their spiritual

father, and a recent Holy Cross graduate. We were warmly welcomed by the prison staff. They told us we had to wear security vests. The staff were very kind and respectful, allowing me to place the vest under my robe, and letting me wear my engolpion into the prison, even though we were not permitted to bring in any other personal articles.

Now, after all this preparation, the heavy doors slowly started to open and the prison guard led us to what the prisoners refer to as a “steel and concrete labyrinth”. We were about to enter unfamiliar territory, but we all knew that the power of God would guide us in this special ministry, and that the Holy Spirit would give us the right words to nourish their hungry souls. We spent an hour together. Words like “powerful”, “humbling” and “life-changing” can barely convey the impact this afternoon had on all of us.

Following a rather intense yet uplifting conversation, I led these devoted men in reciting the Prayers for Holy Communion, and offered to them the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. They approached the Holy Sacrament with humility, with tears of repentance, and with deep and abiding faith. I also prayed for the healing of their souls and bodies, anointing them with Holy Oil of Saint Nectarios. I gave to each of them a small cross and icon card of Saint Ephraim the Syrian, as a reminder of our common faith, and to encourage their continued prayer life for the strengthening of their souls.

Within a week of my visit to the prison, I received another letter. This time, recognizing the sender’s name. I opened the letter, eager to hear from these men with whom I shared a meaningful dialogue about our faith, God’s love, and the power of forgiveness. Here is what they said:

“At first, it was unthinkable: would a simple letter of invitation result in a visit to our prison by His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco? Then, it was unlikely: His Eminence wanted to come, but how could he – in the midst of services of the Great Fast – and with all the administrative red tape; the complexity of visitor approval on such a short notice? After all, we remembered the sad experience of the Roman Catholic bishops, who a few years ago attempted to penetrate our concrete ‘Jericho’, but the walls didn’t budge. Finally, as things miraculously fell into place the visitation drew near, it became downright frightful!”

The letter continues on to describe the moment we walked through the yard door, escorted by a lieutenant from the prison. The prisoners wrote, “We kissed the hand giving the blessing; we were speechless.... We sat and listened, two things became apparent: the Metropolitan didn’t come to give a pep talk or for a photo-op; he really saw us and desired to know us as persons – who we were and how we came to the Faith...He came to impart to us Christ’s truth, which we are not always ready to receive.”

“His Eminence spoke about the ‘real life’, which was not to be found outside of prison, in prison, or even in ourselves – that is, in our thoughts, wants, occupations – but only in Christ, in a life hidden in God. We were reminded of our ultimate blessing to be possessors of that life, no matter our past or what brought us to prison (to be sure, everyone who gathered around Metropolitan Gerasimos that day is serving life for murder). He said that the only substantial difference between the so-called ‘free’ life and life in prison is its structural regimentation, and the reason why the Church Fathers make us feel uncomfortable is because they call us to that higher life outside of ourselves – in Christ, regardless of where one finds himself, on whichever side of the barbed wire.”

Their profound letter concluded with a reflection on their personal struggles. They stated, “It is often through difficulties that God’s love draws His prodigal children home. The Metropolitan said that even though we can’t always know God’s will, we can always

know His love and mercy...Our hierarch told us at our parting 'we are never alone.' The Saints are praying for us, the 'great cloud of witnesses' (Hebrews 12:1), with whom we are partakers in Christ...It is still difficult to believe that the invisible Christ was visibly present to us through His ministers. And yet, as we set our hearts on the events of Holy Week and turn our gaze toward Holy Pascha, we know by faith that this is what always happens in Christ, Who is 'God with us': the Crucified and Risen Savior filled our empty man-made tomb with His eternal life, illuminating sinners sitting in the shadow of death. May we keep His grace in our hearts, through the prayers of our spiritual father, and of our hierarch!"

The lesson to be derived from this pertains to all of us, because God offers His healing power of forgiveness unconditionally. Whether we are confined in a physical prison or are a prisoner to our own sins, we have the opportunity and blessing to receive God's grace and mercy. Forgiving ourselves, forgiving each other, and ultimately seeking the Lord's forgiveness...these are all acts of great faith and are the stepping stones to salvation.

**From the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry Website  
www.theorthodoxprisonministry.org**

**St. Sophia Congratulates Her Graduates!**



**Joëlle Moussi**, daughter of Nadim and Angeline Moussi, graduated as the Valedictorian at Marysville ACE High School. She plans to attend the University of Washington.

**Adrianna Boulos**, daughter of Victor and Dorine Boulos, graduated from Ferndale High School and plans to attend Western Washington University.

**Gebran Gholam**, son of Yanni and Christina Gholam, graduated from Ferndale High School and plans to attend the University of Portland.

**Adonis Reed-Boulos**, son of Valerie Reed, graduated from Ferndale High School and plans to attend the University of Washington.

**The St. Sophia Bookstore**

**Our parish bookstore is a Christian educational outreach ministry to both parishioners and the general public. It is the only store in Bellingham that offers in one place books and other media on the Orthodox Christian Faith.**

**BOOKSTORE NEWS**

Top icons for our homes:

1. CHRIST'S BLESSING
2. PANAGIA
3. HOSPITALITY OF ABRAHAM (Traditionally, Orthodox Christians place this icon in their dining room)

**BOOKS:**

1. LIVING ORTHODOXY IN THE MODERN WORLD by A. Walker and C. Carras....with a forward written by His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew I. \$22.00

The Orthodox Church's reputation for clinging to tradition often gives the impression that it has no message for contemporary society. This book brings together twelve lay and ordained Orthodox Christian writers with profound and fascinating insights in the role and mission of the church in today's world.

2. OUR THOUGHTS DETERMINE OUR LIVES.....\$15.00

The life and teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica. He was one of the most renowned spiritual guides of Serbia in the twentieth century. Having lived through all the suffering over the course of two world wars, during the communist takeover and through the NATO bombings of 1999, his words of love and hope provided spiritual balm; first time published in English.

3. EVERYWHERE PRESENT "CHRISTIANITY IN A ONE-STORY UNIVERSE" by S. Freeman \$10.00

He makes a compelling case for bringing God down from his imaginary second story("the Man upstairs") and becoming aware of

His living and active presence in our lives here and now; this is the story of how faith in our society has been compromised by secularism.

4. BEYOND TYHE SHATTERED IMAGE ..insights into an Orthodox Christian Ecological worldview..by J. Chrissyavgis..... \$20.00

This book reveals to us the rich tradition within Eastern Christianity that has consistently taught the sacredness of the world and the interrelatedness of human persons with all of life.

5. THE ORTHODOX CHURCH (new edition) by T. Ware.....\$18.00 Since it's first publication thirty years ago, Timothy Ware's book has become established as the standard introduction to the Orthodox Christian Church. Also wrote "THE ORTHODOX WAY".

6. HEAR ME; PRAYER BOOK FOR ORTHODOX TEENS..do you know you have a God who HEARS you???

7. LETTERS TO SAINT LYDIA by Johnson... Lydia's life is turned upside down; her family has converted to Orthodoxy without her; she needs a friend badly and finds one in the most unexpected place.

8. EVERYDAY SAINTS AND OTHER STORIES An engaging read about the life and characters who live in a famous and ancient monastery of Pechory. Once you begin this book you will have a difficult time setting it aside.

**DVD SETS:**

"HOW TO RUN THE WAY".....\$50.00 1 CD and 4 DVD's; here is everything necessary to present the Orthodox Christian faith, handed down unbroken since the time of Jesus, to a twenty-first century audience.

**Don't Buy Your Orthodox Christian book on Amazon... Buy it or order it from your parish bookstore!**

# PHILOPTOCHOS



## ST. SOPHIA PHILOPTOCHOS

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, June 8: Philoptochos meeting following Liturgy in the nave of the church. Items on the agenda include a dinner/dance committee report and a conversation on our fellowship hour.

July 12 Patio sale. Proceeds will go to the National Philoptochos Emergency Fund.

Festival Tent: We will set up as we did last year; discussion to follow during our meeting.

November 1: Dinner/dance fundraiser; proceeds to Kids'n'cancer / Camp Agape in Washington State.

### Coffee Hour Offerings for June, July and August

Thank you to the following for offering at Sunday Coffee Hour.

Please note, the Sunday's marked with \* are during a traditional fasting period.

- June 1: Effie Eisses and Joyce Piantes (General Assembly)
- June 8: Cristina Faulkner and Ioana Aluash
- June 15: Evelyn Lallas, Toula Trames, and Harieklia Meras-Bryant
- June 22\*: Yanolla Boulos and Nahla Gholam (Apostles Fast--fish allowed)
- June 29: Salome Walters and Elizabeth Morgan
  
- July 6: Francine Tsoulouhas and Effie Bachelor
- July 13: Tasia Tsoulouhas and Eleni Kyriazis
- July 20: Ibtissam Mansour and Angelina Moussi
- July 27: Dorine Boulos and Marie Boulos
  
- August 3\*: Mary Hulbush, Dena Lien, and Cheri Webster (Dormition Fasting period, no meat, no dairy please)
- August 10\*: Georgia Sentkowski, Kathy Alex, and Cheryl Lallas (Dormition Fasting period, no meat, no dairy please)
- August 17: Wafa Gholam and Christina Gholam
- August 24: Marina Polichronakis and Eleni Pantoleon
- August 31: Nia Zourkos, Eleni Mistry, and Tammy Stavropoulos

*Thank you for finding a substitute and notifying Dena Lien if you are not able to provide for coffee hour on your scheduled day. Please contact Dena at 360-421-3913 or e-mail her at [play\\_ball@comcast.net](mailto:play_ball@comcast.net)*

### Prosporo Bakers for June, July and August

Thank your for offering to make Prosporo!

- June 1 Brooksana Raney (4)
- June 8 Tamara Mattson (4)
- June 15 Harieklia Bryant (4)
- June 22 Eleni Kipelides (4)
- June 29 Kim Weil (4)
  
- July 6 Sue Raney (4)
- July 13 Brooksana Raney (4)
- July 20 Evelyn Lallas (4)
- July 27 Tasia Tsoulouhas (4)
  
- August 3 Tamara Mattson (5)
- August 10 Harieklia Bryant (5)
- August 17 Sue Raney (4)
- August 24 Brooksana Raney (4)
- August 31 Kim Weil (4)

# STEWARDSHIP..... IS A WAY OF LIFE!

*Thank you...* to those who have sent in their 2014 Pledge Card indicating how they would like to commit their time, talent and treasure.

**Fr. Michael and Elizabeth Tervo + Dennis Ingraham + Peter Besas + Doug & Dena Lien + Manoli and Anna Chondroyannos + Fawzi & Samia Boulos + Christos Christophorou + Georgia Sentkowski + Areti Moularas + George & Judith Moularas + Yanni & Christina Gholam + Bessam & Yanolla Boulos + Gebran & Wafa Gholam + Massaad Boulos + Elizabeth Morgan + Victor & Dorine Boulos + Gabriella Boulos + Marcella Boulos + Nahla Gholam + Cynthia Chahine + Salim & Nadia Boulos + Valerie Boulos + Alex & Hortense Youssef + Curt & Salome Wolters + John & Francine Tsoulouhas + Hariekliya Bryant + Bryant & Tamara Mattson + Andrew & Cheryl Webster + Thelma Stasinis + Helen Griffin + Joyce Piantes + Tim & Voula Parks + Demetrios and Terpsithea Totkos + Sorin & Ilana Eleonora Rotea + Mary Hulbush + Jim & Eleni Zourkos + Jim & Georgia Damianos + John Harriman + Kim Weil + Theo & Eleni Kipelides + Konstandinos & Koula Margaritis + Demetrios & Georgia Damianos + Roger Hulbush + Alex Christophorou + Yanni & Roni Walsh + Evans & Star Vagelaras + Nikitas & Tasia Tsoulouhas + Anthony Rodriguez & Partena Karipidis + Dimitri & Georgia Soter Papatotiriou + Louie & Evelyn Lallas + Forest & Holly Jean Grow + Anastasia Zervas + Maria Ilvanakis + Richard & Zeina Evans + Manoly & Marina Polichronakis + Issam Mansour & Susan Kipelidis + Demetrios & Eleni Soteriou + Justin & Kallee Dalton + Loree Foote + Dalene Piantes + George & Ibtissam Mansour + George Mansour III + Norma Mansour + Marco & Marie Boulos + Joseph & Efstathia Bachelor + Christos Tselios**

*(As of 5/26/2014)*



## St. Sophia Choir

Many thanks to all the choir members, chanters, and everyone who helped make the Holy Week and Pascha music go smoothly! Now that the Paschal season is ending, there isn't much new to work on musically, so we'll take a hiatus from practices for the first part of the summer. But keep your eye on the weekly bulletin for the next practice, which I'm planning to call for late July or early August. As always, anyone is welcome to join the choir at any time!

- Tawni



Fr. Nicholas and the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage

Mexico's Home Building Team. Three members of our own parish will make that journey to Tijuana, Baja Mexico. During their mission, they will build homes for several families, engage with the local people and spend some time with the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage.

For the families receiving one of these new homes, it means leaving a makeshift shelter of tarps and discards, to a home that is dry and safe. For our parish volunteers, it will be a life changing experience filled with faith, friendship, and a few hammered thumbs.

We ask that you remember our team members, **Alicia Morgan, Isaac Powell and Brooksana Raney**, in your prayers; their work is a labor of love for the glory of God. The team will be hosting a presentation in July, when they will present a recap of their trip. For more info, visit [www.projectmexico.org](http://www.projectmexico.org)

## St. Sophia Mission Team is Mexico Bound - St Sophia Builds Hope in Mexico

In late June volunteers from across the nation will come together as a part of Project

### Milestones

#### Memorials

Gebran Gholam, 40 Day Memorial, May 4th

John (4 years) & Irene Lallas (3 years), May 18th

Paul Tervo (15 years), May 18th

*May their memories be eternal!*

Congratulations to **Zeina and Richard Evans** who are the proud parents to a set of twins, a girl and a boy, **Amira and Adeos**.



*On May 21st, the feast of Ss. Constantine and Helen, Maria Ilvanakis, along with her daughters, Natalie Koenig and Susie Ilvanakis, presented Fr. Michael and the St. Sophia Community with an icon of the saints, given to the Church in memory of Gus Ilvanakis. The icon was made in Cyprus according the sacred tradition of Orthodox iconography and was purchased from the funds donated in Gus' memory. It is truly a new treasure for our parish!*

# 2014 BELLINGHAM GREEK FEST

September 4, 5, 6, 7

Fun for all ages! \* Live Greek  
music \* Desserts & Appetizers  
Gyros \* Church tours \*  
Books & Gifts \* Kids Games  
FOOD EVERYONE LOVES!



St. Sophia Church 510 E. Sunset Drive Bellingham  
11:00 am - 9:00 pm [www.bellinghamgreekfest.org](http://www.bellinghamgreekfest.org)

## Festival Cooking and Other Volunteer Needs

*Tuesdays, 10:30 am June  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, July August  
through Festival Weekend  
No cooking on July 3rd.*

All hands on deck! The festival is coming  
and we look forward to offering our  
hospitality to the



Whatcom County

Community, raise funds for our Church ministries and, for some of  
the general public, to open their eyes to our St. Sophia Community  
and Orthodox Christianity.

You can help now by committing to help in the festival preparations!  
Volunteer to help in the festival baking, Tuesdays (and Thursdays  
starting in July). Recruit festival sponsors. Find an item from the  
festival donations request list and help cover its cost. A little help  
goes a long way and by working together we can ensure that the  
Festival will fulfill its mission of enabling our minister to our own St.  
Sophia Community and the needs of the community of Bellingham.

To volunteer, please call Joyce Piantes at (360) 224-5211 or email her at  
[joycepiantes@comcast.net](mailto:joycepiantes@comcast.net).



## Festival Donations Requested

The more items that are  
donated to the festival, the  
more your festival efforts can  
help your parish!

A phone call here, an email  
there... or a personal face-to-  
face request for a donation  
can make a huge difference  
and pay-off dividends for  
your parish and its ministries.

**Please solicit local business  
to donate the necessary  
items for our festival.** Fr.  
Michael has a letter that you  
can show asking a business  
for their support with  
necessary Tax ID  
information.

To donate, please contact  
**Victor Boulos**, this year's  
festival chairman. (360)  
815-5564. email:  
[victor@admiralinc.com](mailto:victor@admiralinc.com)

Dear Parishioners.

Below is a list of major food items and miscellaneous items we use in preparation for our festival. We kindly appeal to your generosity to help us defray our expenses by making a donation. Monetary donations are preferred for they allow us maximum flexibility in purchasing; however we are open to donations of food and other items. We truly appreciate your generous response. Please check with the office before making food donations to see if they are still needed

Thank You,  
**Your Festival Committee**

<b>Meat</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Lamb legs lbs	150	\$657.00	Cucumbers cases	16	\$880.00
Lamb Whole lbs	140	\$875.00	Tomatoes cases (Roma)	36	\$1,085.00
Chicken lbs	1120	\$2,240.00	Lettuce mix cases	4	\$80.00
Pork lbs	500	\$960.00	Spinach bags	15	\$68.00
Gyro Meat cases	122	\$3,920.00	Dill bags	6	\$67.00
Ground Beef 10lb	17	\$395.80	Parsley Bags	24	\$109.20
Sausage lbs	100	\$350.00	Green Onions Bags	18	\$58.05
Pita cases	63	\$1,480.00	Onions chopped bags	34	\$546.00
			Peppers cases bell	15	\$452.00
<b>Baking Items</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Paper/Plastic</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Flour 50lb (all purpose)	6	\$120.00	Paper Towels cases	10	\$125.00
Sugar 50lb	6	\$165.00	Coffee cups case 8 oz	1	\$180.00
Honey gal (Money)	10	\$350.00	Plates		\$400.00
Olive oil gal	8	\$104.72	Coffee cups (Greek) case 4 oz	1	\$180.00
Walnuts cases	6	\$205.00	Napkins		\$200.00
Yeast Dry cases	2	\$50.00	Spoons		\$35.00
Rice 25lb	15	\$375.00	Forks		\$50.00
Butter	500 lbs	\$1,500.00	Knives		\$50.00
Margarine 30lbs	2	\$61.80	Gyro wraps		\$500.00
Eggs Doz	150	\$225.00	Styrofoam cups	250	\$100.00
Evaporated milk	20	\$21.40	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Chicken Base lbs	100	\$300.00	Propane		\$500.00
Cooking Oil gal	8	\$200.00	Olives 5gal	2	\$200.00
Parchment Paper	2	\$141.00	Red Wine Vinegar 1gal	5	\$200.00
Grape leaves 5 gal	5	\$380.00	Seasoning large pk	20	\$200.00
Cotg Cheese 5lbs	24	\$200.00	Tent Rental/Setup	6	\$6,000.00
Yogurt lbs	22	\$150.00	Garb bags cases	10	\$175.00
Filo cases	13	\$715.00	Alum Foil	2	\$100.00
Powder sugar lb	75	\$75.00	Saran Wrap	4	\$150.00
Tzatziki sauce gal	22	\$360.00	Spices		\$400.00
			Lemon Juice gal	20	\$200.00
			Pepperoncini (greek) case	3	\$100.00
			Feta Cheese 5 gal bucket	10	\$375.00
<b>Beverages</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>	Oranges case	1	\$50.00
Soda Pop Cases	250	\$2,550.00	Bread		\$600.00
American Coffee	75Lbs	\$250.00	Lemons case	2	\$50.00
Water Cases	20	\$99.80	Creamer Liquid case	1	\$180.00
Greek Coffee	75lbs	\$300.00			



**All Saints Summer Camp at Gig Harbor** July 6-12, 2014 (All (High School and Elementary Sessions) July 13-19, 2014 (tentative): All Saints Summer

Camp (Middle School Session). [www.allsaintscamp.com](http://www.allsaintscamp.com)

**Sunday School** The last day of Sunday School instruction will be June 8th. Sunday School Graduation will take place June 15th.



Orthodox Summer Camp in British Columbia: **Camp Metamorphosis BC** Sunday August 24th - Friday August 29th, 2014 at Pioneer Pacific Christian Camp on Thetis Island, BC (between Vancouver and Vancouver Island). For a registration, contact the camp director: Rev. Fr. Constantinos Economos c/o 4500 Arbutus St. Vancouver, BC V6J-4A2. Email: [campmetbc@gmail.com](mailto:campmetbc@gmail.com)



## Orthodox Catechism Classes with Gabe Martini

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian Faith, join Gabe Martini as he leads the course on the following subjects.

### Class Topics

- June 10th What is the Orthodox Church?
- June 17th Revelation and Tradition
- June 24th Heaven on Earth
- July 1st The Twelve Great Feasts
- July 8th Why We Do What We Do

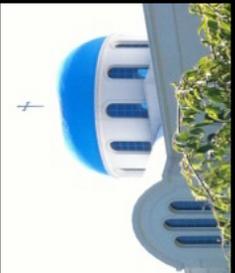
Classes will begin at 7:00 pm in the McIntyre Fellowship Hall at St. Sophia

# St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church

510 E. Sunset Dr. Bellingham, WA 98225

JUNE - JULY  
2014

MONTHLY BULLETIN



St. Sophia

Greek Orthodox Church

