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65TH ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL FOOD PARTY SCHEDULE



It is the day of the Resurrection. Let us shine brightly for the festival, and also embrace one another. Brethren, let us say even to those who hate us, “Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection.” And thus let us cry aloud, “Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.”

Stewardship

Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly, nor under compulsion, for God loves the man that gives cheerfully. (2 Cor. 9:7)

Quick Numbers to Keep you Up to Date

- Through the end of the first quarter of the year we are right on target to achieving the parish goal affirmed at our recent parish assembly.
 - We are at 25.57% of our annual goal, for a total amount received as of March 31: \$85,659.77

The REASON for giving is often misunderstood! The MAIN reason for GIVING is to enjoy *spiritual growth* and personal satisfaction that results from generosity!!

GIVING to experience the feeling of an inner sense of:

- Truly making a difference in this world,
- Participating with others in building The Kingdom of God,
- Helping others have healing, life-essentials, personal support,
- Knowing one is making a clear statement of being on the “right side” and
- Knowing one’s heart is where one’s money is.

All contribute to creating an inner sense of spiritual well-being.

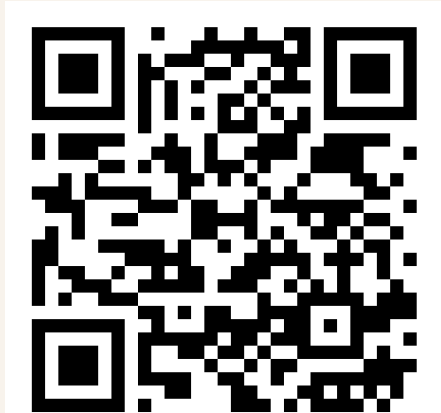
GIVING FEELS GOOD!

My Weekly BEST Gift			
Annual Income	2.5%	5%	10%
\$20,000	\$9.60	\$19.25	\$38.50
\$50,000	\$24.00	\$48.00	\$96.00
\$75,000	\$36.00	\$72.00	\$144.00
\$100,000	\$48.00	\$96.00	\$192.00
\$250,000	\$120.00	\$240.00	\$480.00

WHAT IS MY (MY FAMILIES) BEST GIFT?



**Donate Here
or Use the QR Code**



Annual Cemetery Visits

Saturday May 25th

There will be services for the departed at Stockton Rural, Lodi Memorial and Cherokee Memorial Park Cemeteries in the morning. Please contact the Church Office for more information.

May Their Memory Be Eternal!

Palm Sunday



May Their Memory Be Eternal! Special thanks to Dalal Nasraween for making the beautiful flowers for all the Acolytes and Myrrahbearers on Palm Sunday!

Sunday of the Holy Cross

APRIL 7, 2024



Lenten and Paschal Hymns Practice

APRIL 12 & 19, 2024



St. Basil OCMC Missions Update

APRIL 21, 2024





Bay Area GOYA Lenten Retreat

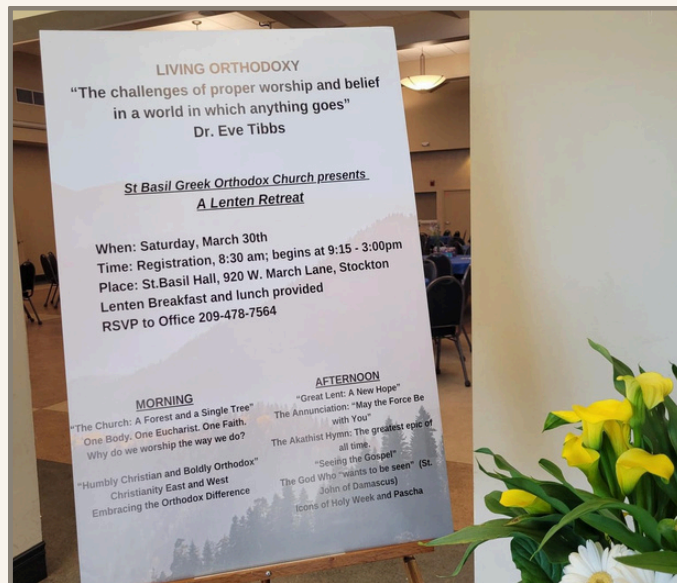
MARCH 29 - 31, 2024

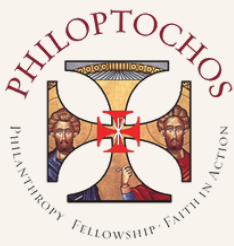
BAY AREA GOYA LENTEN RETREAT at Naturebridge Retreat Center in Sausalito, CA. St. Basil's GOYAns had the opportunity to join the group for a fruitful retreat teeming with activities, joy and valuable lessons. For the first time, Father Gabriel and Presvytera Iulia joined our teens for a productive and inspirational weekend by the ocean. Looking forward to many more to come!



Lenten Retreat @ St. Basil's

MARCH 30, 2024





Easter Bake Sale TSOUREKI

- Baking and Wrapping -

APRIL 20, 2024



Our wonderful Philoptochos Ladies gathered on April 20 to bake and wrap the traditional greek Easter bread (Tsoureki). The delicious treats were sold during Coffee Hour on April 21, with the proceeds going to support the Ladies Philoptochos Society and its charitable ministries.



Tying of Palm Crosses (Lazarus Saturday)

APRIL 27, 2024



Lazarus Saturday Youth Retreat

APRIL 27, 2024



St. Basil's youth, from kindergarten to 12th grade, participated in a beautiful retreat on the Saturday of Lazarus, the day before Palm Sunday. The day included various activities like coloring, singing, crafting, outdoor games, Bible lessons and tying of Palm Crosses. These activities were designed to prepare the youth for the upcoming Holy week.

Project Mexico Ministry 2024



Continuing the trend of the past two years, Saint Basil's will be a part of Project Mexico this year again. There will be 23 parishioners going to build a home for a less fortunate family in Mexico in this ministry. Over the course of six days, a very modest weatherproof home in about four days of work, from mixing, by hand, and laying down the foundation, putting up walls to putting stucco on and a limewash paint on the final work day. Starting and ending each day with prayers and having Sunday to celebrate the Divine Liturgy is a great way for us to be reminded that by participating in this ministry we, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal 6.2).

As you may know, the Project Mexico team has been fundraising by selling the frappes and freddos during coffee hour. Though this has been done for a number of months now, we still have a ways to go to cover all our costs, such as air fare, van rental and our trip fees. We ask that you prayerfully consider donating to our fund to help cover these costs, so that we at Saint Basil's may go and partake in this life-changing, for the family as well as the participants, ministry.

A Message From Our Sunday School Director



Hello Parents, Kristos Anesti and happy spring. What a glorious time of year it is! Our Sunday School ministry is very busy this month, as we wrap up another school year. It has been amazing seeing your children enjoy attending Sunday School so much, they run to their classes. We have the best teachers making our classes enriching, thought-provoking, fun and engrossing. My never-ending gratitude goes out to them.

Something new I would like to include in the Basilian is an activity page for every month, created by Presvytera Destinie Ascetic Life of Motherhood, on Instagram. She is a great resource for Orthodox families, and I enjoy all of her content. In this month's Basilian I have included May. I hope you and

your family look forward to these each month, as much as my family does. Also, if you are interested in more activities, please visit her Instagram page and / or her website.

~ With love, Anastasia Cook

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE FOR MAY (AND ONE FOR JUNE)

MAY 5TH - NO CLASSES, KALO PASCHA!

MAY 12TH - LENTEN ACTIVITY SHEETS ARE DUE.

MAY 19TH - GRADUATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL HOSTED PICNIC.

JUNE 23RD - COIN BOXES ARE DUE.

**SEE PAGE 9 FOR THE
MAY ACTIVITY TO
ENJOY WITH YOUR
FAMILY!**

May

Important Dates:

Family Corner:



1 - 4 **HOLY WEEK**

21 - Sts Constantine & Helen

5 - **PASCHA!**

26 - Sunday of the Paralytic

6 - St George (moveable)

29 - Midfeast of Pentecost

6 - 11 Bright Week

30 - St Emilia

12 - St Thomas Sunday

19 - Myrrh-bearing Women



St Constantine & Helen

St Constantine was the son of Caesar Constantius and St Helen. At this time, around 300AD, the Roman empire was divided into lands ruled by Caesars. St Helen gave birth to Constantine in 274, and shortly afterwards, Constantius divorced St Helen because she was not of noble birth. He wanted to be married to someone who was from noble birth so he could become Emperor.

Constantine respected Christianity as a child. His father Constantius didn't persecute Christians, unlike other Roman emperors. When Constantine's father died in 306, he became the new emperor and allowed people in his land to practice Christianity. But the other emperors of the Roman lands did not like that. They began plotting ways to overthrow Constantine and kill him. When they went into battle, Constantine prayed that God would give him a sign and inspire his army to fight well. The Lord showed him a Sign of the Cross in the sky with writing that said "In this Sign, conquer."

He became the only ruler of the Western Roman Empire. He issued the Edict of Milan in 313 which legalized Christianity and gave Christians the ability to worship and live without persecution. Then in 323, when he became ruler of the entire Roman Empire, he extended this edict to the entire land. Christians were finally able to practice their faith without fear after 300 years of being persecuted.

Constantine went on to build churches, brought back banished Christians, and because of his great reverence for the cross, he sent his mother, and a Patriarch on a quest to find the actual Cross. In 326, it was miraculously found. Empress Helen went on to have the land freed of paganism and built many churches in places where pagan temples used to be. St Constantine did many more good things for the church, including building a church over the tomb of Christ in order to honor Christ's Resurrection. He was baptized on his deathbed, and then died in 337 and was buried in the church of the Holy Apostles. Their feast day is May 21st.

During the Paschal season, just like we do during lent, consider making changes to your environment that echo what is going on liturgically. The liturgical colors for Pascha are bright/white/colorful and often red (like red eggs). Consider adding elements to your home to remind you and your family of this joyous season.

Hymn of the Month

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and on those in the tombs
bestowing life!

For 40 days after Pascha we joyfully say:

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
(or Truly He is Risen)

Activity

On the feast of St Constantine and Helen, make homemade pesto for dinner with fresh basil! It's said that St Helen discovered the True Cross of Christ buried under basil (a symbol of victory)! In a food processor or blender, blend up:

- 2 cups basil leaves
- ½ cup pine nuts
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 small garlic clove
- ¼ teaspoon salt and black pepper to taste
- ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for a smoother pesto
- ¼ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Serve over chicken or with pasta!



Extras

Check out this Guide for how to put together a traditional Pascha basket!
Scan the QR Code to read more!



65th ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVALFOOD PARTIES*

All work parties begin at 9am

JUNE

DOLMADES

THURSDAY	JUNE 27	Prep Work
FRIDAY	JUNE 28	Rolling Dolmades

JULY

GRIND WALNUTS July 20 (Tent)

KOULOOURAKIA

MONDAY	JULY 22	Prep Work
TUESDAY	JULY 23	Make

KOURAMBIETHES

MONDAY	JULY 29	Prep Work
TUESDAY	JULY 30	Make and Pack Kourambiethes

AUGUST

MELOMAKARONA

THURSDAY	AUG 8
FRIDAY	AUG 9

SPANAKOPITA/TIROPITA

THURSDAY	AUG 15	Prep Work
FRIDAY	AUG 16	Make Spanakopita

ARGOLAVOS (TENTATIVE)

THURSDAY	AUG 22
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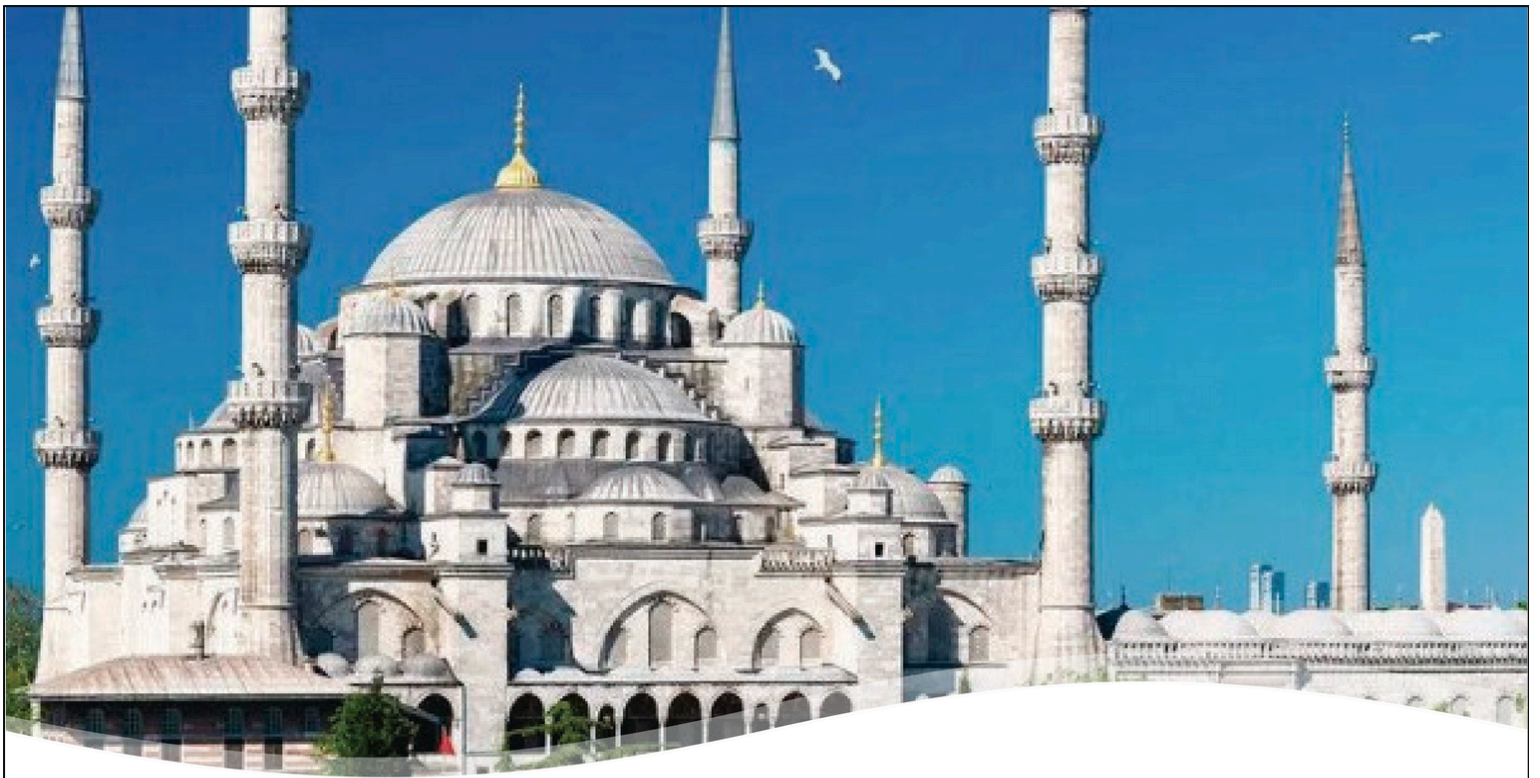
SEPTEMBER

BAKLAVA

MONDAY	SEPT 2	Prepare Baklava
TUESDAY	SEPT 3	Packing Baklava

MAKING HONEY FOR BAKLAVA **DATE TBA**

*All Dates Subject to Change



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Trip Highlights

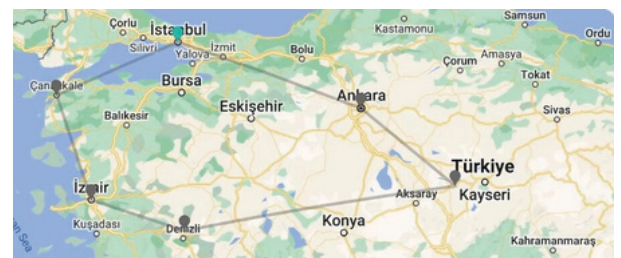
- 📍 Ankara
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- 📍 Éfeso
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Elias & Lisa Fidentzis	Despina "Dessie" Ksidakis	Antonia Prescott

Thank You 2024 Stewards

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Charles & Liberty Ramirez
Jonathan & Jessica Reyes
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Nagui & Laila Sorour
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memory)
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Jim Spanos
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Reminder: Please send in your commitment card.

(List updated as of April 28, 2024)



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Youth Groups

OTHER EVENTS

Birthdays, Sweet 16

Anniversaries

Reunions

Art Show, Gallery Exhibit








Meetings, Conferences

Chamber of Commerce

Events

May

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Strict Fast  Wine & Oil allowed.  Fish Oil & Wine allowed  Refrain from meat No symbol - Fast Free	HOLY MONDAY  29 Bridegroom Service 6:30pm	HOLY TUESDAY  April 30 Presanctified Liturgy 9:30am Bridegroom Service 6:30pm	HOLY WEDNESDAY  1 Uncion 3:00pm Matins Service 6:30pm (Uncion to follow)	HOLY THURSDAY  2 Mystical Supper & Institution of the Eucharist 6:00am Service of the 12 Gospels 6:30pm	HOLY FRIDAY  3 (Office Closed) Royal Hours, 9:00am Apokathelosis, 3pm Lamentations, 7pm	HOLY SATURDAY  4 Vespers Liturgy, 9:30am Pre-Resurrection Service, 11:00pm Anasfi (Resurrection Liturgy), 11:45pm Pascha Meal to follow
GREAT & HOLY PASCHA 11:00 Agape Vespers	6 St. George the Great Martyr Orthros, 8:40am Liturgy, 9:30am (Office Closed)	7 (Fast Free)	8 (Fast Free)	9 Renewal Friday	10 Theotokos of the Life-Giving Spring, Orthros, 8:40am Liturgy, 9:30am (Fast Free)	11 Pascha Meal to follow
THOMAS SUNDAY 12 (Mother's Day) 8:15am, Orthros 9:30am, Divine Liturgy	13 St. George the Great Martyr Orthros, 8:40am Liturgy, 9:30am (Office Closed)	14 (Fast Free)	15 (Fast Free)	16 (Fast Free)	17 (Fast Free)	18 (Fast Free)
SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN 8:15am, Orthros 9:30am, Divine Liturgy (Last Sunday of Sunday School)	20 Sts. Constantine & Helen Orthros, 8:30am Divine Liturgy, 9:30am	21 Sts. Constantine & Helen Orthros, 8:30am Divine Liturgy, 9:30am	22 (Fast Free)	23 (Fast Free)	24 (Fast Free)	25 Cemetery Visits @ Stockton Rural, Cherokee Memorial and Lodi Memorial Cemeteries in the Morning
SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC 26	27 Memorial Day (Office Closed)	28 (Office Closed)	29 Mid-Pentecost Orthros, 8:30am Divine Liturgy, 9:30am	30 (Office Closed)	31 (Office Closed)	JUNE 1

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