JUNE 2025

THE BASILIAN VOLUME 25, ISSUE 6

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. BASIL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Mother's Day Brunch @ St. Basil's



Stewardship The Joy of Giving our Best Gift!

7 Surprising Things a New Orthodox Christian Learned About Orthodox Stewardship:

- Almsgiving should be done in secret. However, "Stewardship" since apostolic times is understood to be shared with the community.
- The Stewardship "Pledge" is not a legal obligation. If circumstances change in the year, it's perfectly okay to reduce (or increase!) the amount.
- 3. Stewardship is intimately connected to our personal spiritual growth.
- Stewardship is not an obligation! Our Church frames it as an act of love, gratitude and participation in the life of the Church.
- 5. Biblical promises for blessings that comes from generous giving, e.g., Malachi 3:10 and 2 Cor. 9, can be financial, but not necessarily. Blessings can come in many forms!
- 6. In Orthodoxy, giving is also tired to theosis! Becoming one with God!!!
- 7. We don't have strict rules for giving. It is up to our individual conscience. Giving is a heart "joyful" thing!

From an Orthodox perspective: almsgiving and stewardship are both deeply rooted in the theology of love (agape), service to others, and the responsible use of God's gifts.

Almsgiving (eleemosynary in Greek) is giving to the poor and those in need, either directly or through a charitable organization like the Philoptochos Society or the Int'l Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC).

Stewardship is the faithful management of all God's gifts - time, talents, material resources... It is rooted in the belief that God is the true owner of all things, and humans are caretakers (oikonomoi). It is the primary mechanism we use to 'fund' our parish.

The rich man is not one who has much, but one who gives much; for what he gives away remains his forever.

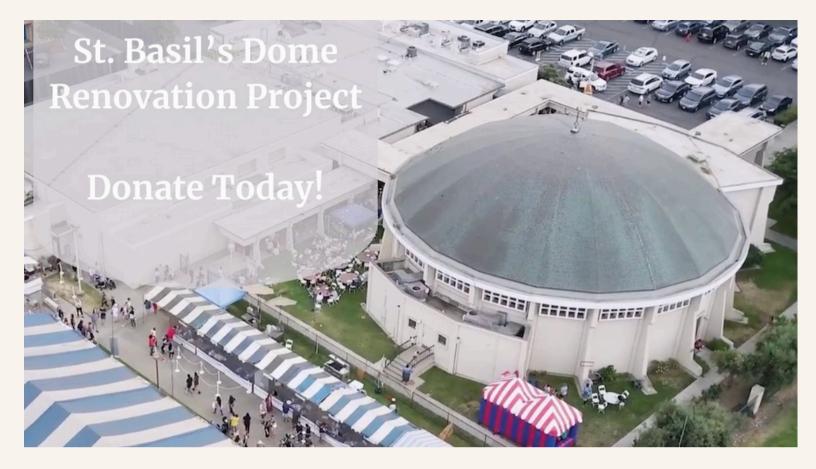
--St. John Chrysostom (347 - 407)











Thank you to the following Donors!

Angelo & Olympia Anagnos Jim & Terri Blum Tom & Deana Chiarchianis Angelo Dakopolos Michael & Edna Fields Edward & Sali Graham Justin Joyner Robert & Katherine Kassab Krystalos Mandarakas Gary & Deana Mariani Peter & Mary Mitracos JoAnne Panagopoulos Wilma Papadogiannis Helen Perlegos Stephan Saturno Juan & Kelly Valenzuela Jerry Victor Steven J. Walton

Be part of St. Basil Parish History for up to 200 years! Your great-great... grandchildren will know you helped make our beautiful dome possible! We approved the stainless steel Titanium Nitride (bronze) color coating that will, as Evie Robinson said at the Parish Assembly, shine like a "halo" over our church - a sign and beautiful silent witness to our community.



Use the QR code to the left to make your donation today!

Click to Donate

Use the QR code to the left to make your donation today!

GGTM ANNUAL GGTM A

SEPT. 5 · 6 · 7 2025 FRI & SAT: Noon · 10 pm SUN: Noon · 6 pm

Delicious Greek Food and Pastries Greek Music and Dancing • Fun for all Ages

AVE.		AVE.
PERSHING	MARCH LN. ST. BASIL	PACIFIC
	ROSE MARIE LN.	-

- \$5.00 Admission
 Children 11 and under are FREE
 - when accompanied by an adult

Enjoy the Spirit of Greece!

For More Information Visit: Facebook.com/GreekFoodFestivalStocktonCa or by Calling: (209) 478-7564

VIP Ministry - Tuesday, April 29, 2025 & May 27, 2025



Fr. James Retelas Presenting (April 29)



Doreen Bestolarides Presenting (May 27)

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

Sunday, April 27, 2025 - Eastern California District (Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Sacramento). Our parish was represented by Sofia Agranovitch, Justin Sotiras, and Basam Hanania. Congratulations to Justin and Basam for advancing to the Metropolis Level!



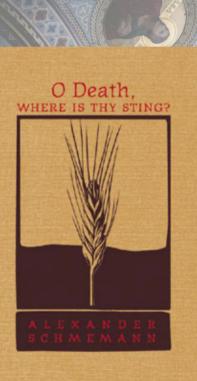
Metropolis Level at St. Nicholas Ranch in Dunlap, CA - Saturday, May 10, 2025



<u>2025 Food Festival Work Party Schedule</u>

the part

Thursday, June 26, 2025 - Dolmades 9:00 AM Wednesday, July 23, 2025 - Koulourakia 9:00 AM Wednesday, July 30, 2025 - Kourambiedes 9:00 AM Thursday, August 7, 2025 - Melomakarona 9:00 AM Thursday, August 14, 2025 - Spanakopita 9:00 AM Saturday, August 23, 2025 - Argolavous 9:00 AM Monday, September 1, 2025 - Baklava 9:00 AM



ST. MARY AND MARTHA BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Led by Patricia Manuse, LCSW

Wednesdays, June 4 & 18, 2025

Noon - 1:00 pm Location: Fireside Room & Zoom

Reading: O Death Where is Thy Sting by Alexander Schmemann

The group provides a confidential and nurturing environment focused on mutual support, understanding strategies and skills of the grieving process and coping with loss.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Patricia Manuse at **patriciamanuse@gmail.com**.

MORNING BIBLE STUDY

MEETS WEEKLY EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

11AM - NOON IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM & ZOOM

Join us for fellowship and studying God's Word as we reflect on 2nd Letter to the Corinthians and how the wisdom found in this Gospel will grant us greater clarity and peace.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday Night, June 24, 2025 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Location: Fireside Room

Men's Fellowship aims to offer men (both Orthodox and non-Orthodox) a place to develop and strengthen friendship, offer support to live the life in Christ and to reach our God-given potential.

We will continue our reflection on the book "All Is Well" by Albert S. Rossi.

For questions or more information contact Father Pete: frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org

ST. BASIL'S VIP MINISTRY

VIP is our SENIOR MINISTRY and it is an opportunity to gather the distinguished and beloved members of our parish for fellowship, a meal and to hear a presentation on the faith or a topic of interest.

Please note that the Senior Ministry will begin earlier than usual, at <u>11:00 AM</u>.
 We also encourage everyone to attend the <u>Divine Liturgy</u> for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist beforehand (9:30 am).
 Following the service, we'll head to the hall for coffee, fellowship, and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there!

<u>Tuesday, June 24, 2025</u>

11:00 am - 12:30 pm in the Church Hall.



Saturday of Souls

Saturday, June 7, 2025

For those who wish the clergy to say the **names** of your departed loved ones, please submit your list of names to the office by **Friday**, **June 6 at 3 pm**.

Otherwise, you may bring your list the day of and leave it on the front table where the koliva (boiled wheat) dish is.



209-478-7564 office@gosaintbasil.org

St. Basil's Greek Orthodox Christian Church Art Contest 2024-2025

St. Basil's Sunday School Recognition & Scholarships' Program was held on May 18, 2025. Enthusiasm abounded, as Sunday School students received certificates & awards. Scholarship presentations were given by AHEPA & Daughters of Penelope (DOP) members.

Daughters of Penelope members also presented the Third Annual DOP & Sunday School Art Contest certificates and awards to participating students. Acknowledgement & appreciation items were given to staff, judges, and the religious community. Anastasia Cook (Sunday School Director), and Kathleen Farros-Hoeppner (DOP Secretary & Art Contest Chair), coordinated the annual art contest, along with the Sunday School teachers.

The Art contest was open to Sunday School students, and the youth of St. Basil's Greek Orthodox Christian Church. Art was inspired by the individual lessons taught by the Sunday School teachers, with work being reproduced in calendars and greeting cards. Proceeds go the DOP Scholarship fund. Processing Stories of the Bible by creating art inspired by the stories, is an additional approach to youth understanding and keeping youth connected with the teachings of the Orthodox Chrisitan Faith.

Thank you to the judges, Mary Caroll-Bundy, Gayle Maduros, and Georgianna Rishwain. Art (that remained anonymous for fairness) was judged, in two Divisions. First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention places were given. Art Contest certificates and awards were presented by Kathy Leles (DOP President) and JoAnne Panagopoulos (DOP Marshall & Sunshine Comm.). All participating students were presented with certificates and an art/craft item.

Congratulations to all the students for the heart-felt work!

Division I

First Place - Juliana Hanania Second Place - Bassam Hanania Third Place - Ethan Gordora Honorable Mention - Senay Corfu Honorable Mention - Peter Naween

Division II

First Place - Salinna Corfu Second Place - Syrus Jeffrey Cook Third Place - Skylar Matthew Cook Honorable Mention - Maria Hanania Thank you parents, Sunday School Director - Anastasia Cook & Teachers - Samira Bitar, Maria Karapanos, Sali Graham, Anjelina & Veronica Falcinella, and Presvytera Angie Sotiras, for your encouragement of student's art and allowing time for the art lessons in the classroom. Thank you, Father Pete and Presvytera Angie and Father Gabriel and Presvytera Iulia for your support!

Looking forward to the **2025 - 2026 Art Contest that will begin in September, 2026.** Card sets are for sale through Daughter's of Penelope during Coffee Hours or by contacting Kathy Leles kleles@att.net or Kathleen Farros-Hoeppner ksfarros@gmail.com to order. Final printing will include - June 2025 - May 2026.

Kitchen Wish List



Our kitchen is in need of **donations** to replenish items used by all ministries. Your generous help with donating an item, donating a gift card to Costco, Smart N Final, etc. will greatly assist in keeping the kitchen stocked and ready for all!

•	Ground Coffee Paper Coffee Filters, Regular and Large	•	Stevia Packets Non-Dairy Creamer
•	Coffee Stir Sticks	•	Half & Half
•	Hot Beverage Cups 10-12 oz	•	Dawn Dish Soap
•	Cold Beverage Cups (for water & juice)	•	Comet
•	White Napkins	•	Cleaning Spray for counters
•	Paper Plates – Luncheon and Dessert sizes	•	Steel Scrubbers or brushes for
•	Paper Bowls		dishwashing
•	Plastic Forks	•	Laundry Detergent
•	Plastic Spoons	•	Bleach
•	Plastic Knives	•	Trash Bags, Large and small
•	Disposable Rectangular Tablecloths or Large	•	Aluminum Foil
	Roll	•	Plastic Wrap
•	Sugar Packets	•	Ziplocs (all Sizes)
•	Splenda Packets	•	Large aluminum baking pans

Please bring your donations to the church kitchen on Sunday or to the office. Questions: Kelley Bestolarides (209)607-1166 or kbesto@me.com

Community News - About Our Family

Daughters of Penelope Paint and Sip Event

Our first annual Daughters of Penelope Paint and Sip event was a huge success. It was held at the Consumnes River Farm Winery owned by Elena and Nick Panos on Saturday May 17. Over 20 women came out from Stockton, Elk Grove, Modesto and Tracy to paint a wonderful scene depicting Greece and enjoying everyone's company. Winners from the raffle were Vicki Papachristos and Teri Blum. Proceeds from this event will go towards the non profit organizations we support in our area. We thank everyone who attended and look forward to another Paint and Sip in the fall.



Constantine Koulouris, a huge Giants fan, got a foul ball at the Giants-Rangers game on Sunday, April 27 2025. He attended with his Papou, Mother and friend, Aaron.



St. Basil Coffee Hour

Here at St. Basil we have a wonderful tradition of Fellowship and Hospitality. Coffee Hour is a special part of that tradition.

COFFEE HOUR SERVES TO:

- encourage fellowship
- catch up with friends
- welcome newcomers
- encourage conversation

Hosting is simple! Bring snacks & juice, brew coffee, set out food & beverages, clean up! Thank you to our June Coffee Hour Hosts:

6/8 – The Aftias Family 6/15 – Olympia Anagnos 6/22 - St. Basil's Church Choir 6/29 - Open Everything we have is a gift from God that we are to use to help others.

LIVING A

STEWARD

Ierimiah Alba Dean & Ruth Alexander Spilios & Georgia Aliferis Kiki Allison James Anagnos John Anagnos Angelo & Olympia Anagnos Harriet Anagnos John A. Anagnos Popi Anagnos Steve Anagnos **Buck & Mary Carroll-Bandy Becky Bennetto** Ron & Dea Berberian Paul & Stephanie Bestolarides Ted & Kelley Bestolarides Jim & Terry Blum John & Sunday Borges **Constantine Bordokas** lim & Mary Bravos James & Angela Brusa Theodore Carademos Jarred & Alona Chacon Stephan & Jodie Chiarchianis Stephen N. Chiarchianis Tom & Deana Chiarchianis George & Janice Chimiklis Eric & Antonia Cole **Emily Clifford** Michael & Stephanie Craig George & Victoria Crosthwaite Fr. Gabriel & Pres. Iulia Cupsa **Evanthia Davis** Diego & Crystal De Alba **Economou Family** Jessica Emery

Katy Everly Nick Evmorfia Mary Facaros **Charles & Dawn Faris** Nick & Jesslyn Farros Kathleen Farros-Hoeppner & Family **Georgios Fidentzis** Michael & Edna Fields William & Susan Filios Mark David Forrest **Barbara Frances** Michael & Patti Frangadakis **Charles & Yumi Frank** Ray & Anastasia Fulton Rick & Debbie Gaines Aaron & Helen Garner **Emanuel Geralis** William & Angela Gibson Elias & Rana Goriye Mrad Gorive Edward & Sali Graham Stella Graham William & Sylvia Hanania William & Sylvia Heinrich Mike & Kristi Hyllen Barbara Johns Michael & Despina Johnson Tasso & Gertie Kandris Kostas & Dimitra Kapiniaris George & Kathy Kaplanis Mark & Lisa Kapogiannis Robert & Katherine Kassab Alan & Angelina Keigley Elaine Kluve Christos Konstantelos Mr. & Mrs. Nick Konstantelos

Demetra Kouchis Peter & Lori Koulouris Gus & Vaso Koutsoulis Nasi & Katie Koutsoulis Ghazwan Krnfli & Barea Ghandour Despina & Andreanna Ksidakis Harriet Lappas Goldie Lewis Leo & Vasiliki Lewis Chris & Renee Livanios lim & Stacie Lofas Michael & Beth Louis **Gayle Maduros** Krystalo Mandarakas Dan Manos **Diana Manos** Patricia Manuse Gary & Deana Mariani Paolo Mariani Jose Martinez Peter & Mary Mitracos Solomon & Christine Mourad Sandra Myers lim & Niki Natsis Moises Navarro Steve Nicolaou Jonathan & Angela Oconnor **Kimberly Palacioz** JoAnne Panagopoulos Vicki Papachristos Mark & Lenna Papadimatos Dimetra Papadogiannis William Papadogiannis Chris Papas Stephanie Papas

Everything we have is a gift from God that we are to use to help others.

LIVING A

STEWARI

Chris W. M. Pappas John & Paula Pappas **Billy Paraskevas** Harriett Paresivopolous Don & Cynthia Pascarella George Pascut Katina Peris Jeff & Jessica Perlegos Katina Peris Dean & Marie Poullos Antonia Prescott Carl Ramirez Charles & Liberty Ramirez Garen Rishard Ray & Georgianna Rishwain Jim & Evie Robinson Gus & Catherine Ropalidis Barry & Alexis Ruhl Theoni Salcedo Stephen Saturno Alexandra Schoonover Iohn & Rose Siliverdis



Angelo & Olympia Anagnos Dea Spanos Berberian Joseph Dominguez Michael & Edna Fields Emanuel Geralis Diana Manos **James Simos Tracey Sittig** John & Evette Sola Ishmael Solario lennifer Sorour Fr. Pete & Pres Angie Sotiras Spanos Family Mr. & Mrs. Alex & Faye Spanos (in loving memory) James Spanos Michael & Helene Spanos Thomas Spanos William & Maria Stamos Maria Stefan Nicholas Stefan Brandon & Maria Taylor Dino Theodoratos Shamla Tounou **Phyllis Trachiotis** Alexander Triantaphilides Paul & Christine Tsampis Mike & Amber Tsarnas

(List updated as of May 28, 2025)

Basilian Angels

Patricia Manuse Gary & Deana Mariani Pete & Penny Panos Katina Peris Dean Poullos Kerie Rishwain Spanos Family Michael & Helene Spanos St. Basil Ladies Philoptochos Society Eraclis & Marianthe Tsirelas



Niki Tsirelas **Eraclis & Marianthe Tsirelas Stanley Tzikas** Juan & Kelly Valenzuela Donna Vasiliou Anthony & Danielle Vasquez Ellece Papas Vasti George Octavian Velis Rodama & Vasilios Veziris Miroslav & Nada Vicijan Jerry Victor Kathryn Walkowiec Samuel Wall Steven J. Walton Gary & Christine Wiebe Carla Wolf Leah Xanttopulos **Bobbe Xenos** Creighton & Bertha Younnel Matthew & Eleni Zarefakis

JoAnn Tsirelas

(List updated as of May 28, 2025)

Basilian Booster's



If you would like to advertise your business in the Basilian, please send your requests or questions to Basilian@gosaintbasil.org

Hall Rental Information

Saint Basil Greek Orthodox Church Hall Rental



Our remodeled rental facility holds up to 380 people with an expandable partitioned wall for smaller events.

Call Edna Fields @ (209) 598-5746 or email HallRental@gosaintbasil.org

920 West March Lane Stockton CA www.gosaintbasil.org

FAITH-BASED

Weddings Baptisms First Communions Quincenerias Memorials **FUNDRAISERS** Crab Feeds School Sports Dance, Cheer, Gymnastics or Band Youth Groups **OTHER EVENTS** Birthdays, Sweet 16 Anniversaries Reunions Art Show, Gallery Exhibit Meetings, Conferences Chamber of Commerce Events

	Friday		
	Thursday	5	Bible Study, 11am
lune	Wednesday	4	Sts. Mary & Martha Grief Ministry, noon
	Tuesday	3	
	۲.	2	owed. The allowed.

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fathers of the 1 st 1 Council	Strict Fast	e	4	5	9 🖋	Saturday of Souls 7
St. Justin the Martyr	🧩 Wine & Oil allowed.		Sts. Marv & Martha	Bible Study. 11am		8:30am, Orthros
Orthros, 8:15am	💦 Fish Oil & Wine allowed.		Grief Ministry, noon			9:30am, Divine Liturgy
Divine Liturgy, 9:30am	🔗 Refrain from meat					Memorial Prayers to
(St. Justin relics to be brought out)	No symbol – Fast Free		Hr. Pete Away (June 4-7)			
Holy Pentecost 8	6	10	1	12	13	14
Orthros, 8:15am Divine Liturgy, 9:30am	(NO Fasting this week)			Bible Study, 11am	Fr. Pete Away / lune 13-201	
Pentecost Kneeling Service to follow			(No Fasting)		(No Fasting)	
All Saints Sunday 15	7 16	17	4	19	+ 20	21
Orthros, 8:15am Divine Liturgy, 9:30am Eathar's Davi BBO			Sts. Mary & Martha Grief Ministry, noon	Bible Study, 11am		
luncheon to follow						
22	23	Nativity of 🏹 24 St. John the Baptist	4 25	7 26	4 27	28
Orthros, 8:15am		8:30am, Orthros 9:30am, Liturgy	Festival Work Party— Dolmathes, 9am	Bible Study, 11am		
Divine Liturgy, 9:30am			moved to			
		VIP, 11:00am	Thursday, June 26 @ 9AM!	Parish Council		St. Basil Fireworks Sale
		Men's Fellowship, 7-8:30pm		Meeting		(+ Viute zo-July 4)
Peter & Paul the 29 Holy Apostles	30	I YINL	💕 July 2	July 3	4 VINL 💠	July 5
Orthros, 8:15am	Fr. Pete Away (June 29-July 3)	St. Basil Fireworks Sale (June 28-July		NO Bible Study	Independence Day (Office	
Divine Liturgy, 9:30am		4)			Closed)	

St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church 920 W. March Ln. Stockton, CA 95207

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Church Website: gosaintbasil.org E-mail: office@gosaintbasil.org Office: 209-478-7564 Facebook: @StBasilGOCStockton Instagram: stbasil_stockton Basilian email: basilian@gosaintbasil.org

Rev. Fr. Panagiotis Sotiras, Parish Priest frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org

Rev. Fr. Gabriel Cupsa, Assistant Priest frgabriel@gosaintbasil.org