

WELCOME TO ST. SOPHIA

440 Whitehall Rd., Albany, New York

Welcome to the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The glass-enclosed narthex is designated for parents with infants and young children. Everyone is asked to remain in the narthex during the “Small Entrance,” “Great Entrance,” “Epistles,” and “Gospel Readings”. Also, please remember to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Also know that there is a wheelchair and a walker available to those who have mobility needs. Please ask a Parish Council member at the Pangari.

If you are a visitor or newcomer, we are pleased to have you with us. Please introduce yourself to a parish council member at the Pangari and also sign the guest book. Remember that only those who are baptized or chrismated in the Eastern Orthodox faith may participate in the Holy Sacraments including Holy Communion. Following church services, everyone is invited to attend the fellowship hour in the parish hall. *Our website is <http://stsophia.net>*

Today: February 11

Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)

The foregoing two parables -- especially that of the Prodigal Son -- have presented to us God's extreme goodness and love for man. But lest certain persons, putting their confidence in this alone, live carelessly, squandering upon sin the time given them to work out their salvation, and death suddenly snatch them away, the most divine Fathers have appointed this day's feast commemorating Christ's impartial Second Coming, through which we bring to mind that God is not only the Friend of man, but also the most righteous Judge, Who recompenses to each according to his deeds.

It is the aim of the holy Fathers, through bringing to mind that fearful day, to rouse us from the slumber of carelessness unto the work of virtue, and to move us to love and compassion for our brethren. Besides this, even as on the coming Sunday of Cheese-fare we commemorate Adam's exile from the Paradise of delight -- which exile is the beginning of life as we know it now -- it is clear that today's is reckoned the last of all feasts, because on the last day of judgment, truly, everything of this world will come to an end.

All foods, except meat and meat products, are allowed during the week that follows this Sunday.

Nineteen-year Memorial for the late
Spiro Takes
Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in his Memory
May his Memory be Eternal!

Judgment Sunday

February 11, 2018 – February 17, 2018

11 Sunday 9:30 am Divine Liturgy
12 Monday 11:00 am Senior Exercise

	4:30 pm	Greek School
	6:30 pm	Festival Meeting
	6:30 pm	Basketball
13 Tuesday	11:00 am	Chair Yoga
	12:30 pm	Senior Program
	3:15 pm	Greek School
14 Wednesday	11:00 am	Senior Exercise
	12:30 pm	Knitters
	4:15 pm	Greek School
15 Thursday	12:30 pm	Seniors
	5:30 pm	Adult Greek School
16 Friday	11:30 am	Senior Exercise
	5:00 pm	Greek School
17 Saturday	9:30 am	Liturgy–2nd Saturday of Souls

News & Events

- ▶ Tomorrow, Monday night, will be the first Festival meeting of the year. Chair people and newcomers are asked to attend this important planning meeting which will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the AHEPA room. (Note: This is a rescheduled meeting night. It was originally scheduled for Thursday night).
- ▶ Lent starts February 19 and so our annual Cheesefare Luncheon will be held on February 18. Proceeds will benefit our GOYA youth programs. Adult tickets are \$10; Children ages 6-17 are \$5. There is no charge for children age 5 and under. Tickets will be available during the fellowship hour.
- ▶ It’s back for another three performances. “California Suite”, a Neil Simon comedy, will be presented here this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the banquet room. There will be a special ticket price for parishioners of \$10 at the door. Just state that you are a parishioner. Tickets for all others is \$20; \$18 for students and seniors. Note: This is a fundraiser for the church.
- ▶ **Saturday Night at the Movies.** The Philoptochos of St. George Church will be presenting the movie “Do You Wanna Dance” about a young dance instructor who has to give lessons to parishioners at a local Greek church. It’s free admission at the Hellenic Center next Saturday, February 17 at 5 p.m. Pizza, popcorn, and soft drinks will be sold. In case of inclement weather, the event may be canceled.
- ▶ Stewardship 2018 cards are available in the exonarthex and by the church office. Please make your commitment today if you have not already done so.
- ▶ Our iconographer Efthimios Stoja has an art exhibit at Evergreen Commons Rehab Center and Nursing Home. The exhibit will be open through March 31 from 10 a.m.– 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Fourth Mode. Psalm 146.5;134.3.

Great is our Lord, and great is his power.

Verse: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2.

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Reading

Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)

The reading is from Matthew 25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the Heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The first-born of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

Apolytikion (Hymn) for the Church in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast made manifest the fishermen as most wise, By sending down upon them the Holy Ghost, And by them hast drawn the world into Thy net. O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

O God, when You come upon the earth in glory, the whole world will tremble. A river of fire will bring all before Your Judgment Seat and the books will be opened, and everything in secret will become public. At that time, deliver me from the fire which never dies, and enable me to stand by Your right hand, O Judge most just.