

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. For those with special mobility needs, there is a wheelchair and a walker available. 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. However, 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: September 2

Mammas the Martyr

Saint Mammas was from Gangra of Paphlagonia. He was born in prison, where his parents were suffering for Christ's sake and ended their lives. He was named Mammas because, after he had long remained without speaking, he addressed his foster mother Ammia as "mamma." He contested for Christ about the year 275.

John the Abstainer, Patriarch of Constantinople

Saint John became Patriarch during the reign of Tiberius, in the year 582, governed the Church for thirteen years and five months, and reposed in peace in 595. It was during this Patriarch's reign, in the year 586, that the title "Ecumenical Patriarch," not used before this, came to be instituted.

One-year Memorial for the late†

Katherine Genos

Nine-year Memorial for the late†

George Genos

Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in their Memory

May their Memory be Eternal!

Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew September 2, 2018 – September 8, 2018

2 Sunday 9:30 am Divine Liturgy

3 Monday **Holiday–Labor Day**

4 Tuesday 11:00 am Chair Yoga

12:30 pm Senior Program

5 Wednesday 11:30 am Senior Exercise

12:30 pm Knitters

6 Thursday 12:30 pm Seniors

7 Friday 11:30 am Senior Exercise

News & Events

- ▶ It's September and time for school, and, in spite of all other distractions for kids today, religious education may be more critical than ever before. Sunday School will begin next Sunday; registration will start today. Please make an effort to have your children attend on a regular basis.
- ▶ There will be a Greek School “Open House” and registration next Sunday. For further information and schedules go to: www.stsophiagreekschool.org.
- ▶ St. Sophia Dance Group sign ups are now open. If you have children that are interested in joining the St. Sophia Dance Group, please download and print the St. Sophia Dance Group Agreement and Application from the St. Sophia website (click on “Organizations” and then “Dance Group”). Read the directions carefully to apply. A new attendance policy will be strictly enforced: Dancers will not be allowed to attend dance rehearsal unless they were present in Sunday School or the Altar. All details of this policy are clearly explained in the September Testament and weekly e-mail blasts. The deadline for applications is Sunday, September 23rd. Thank you, in advance, for helping us teach our youth that faith and Christian values come first in our church.
- ▶ It's one of the most well-known sports venues in the world -- Fenway Park in Boston. Upcoming is a bus trip for a baseball game at Fenway. The Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena are hosting a trip to Fenway Park on Sunday, September 16. The Boston Red Sox are scheduled to play the New York Mets at 1:05 p.m. The cost is \$38 per person; \$80 for the ticket and the bus. (Bus ticket alone is \$42). To reserve a spot, please contact Zoe Bousbouras at (518) 542-3227. The deadline is September 8. And for special excitement, there's always a chance to see someone hit a home run over the famous big “*Green Monster*” wall.
- ▶ Coming up soon. Be part of the celebration! Join us as we commemorate Fr. Pat beginning his 30th year serving St. Sophia with a dinner/dance here on Saturday, October 20. Tickets are \$40 per person; youth 6-12, \$20; children under six are free. Tickets will be on sale during the fellowship hour. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.
- ▶ It's this coming weekend. St. George in Schenectady is holding its 43rd Annual Greek Festival this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 7, 8, 9. Of course, there's all the good food and pastries, live music and the folk dancers that make this event such a good time. Admission is free.
- ▶ Food Pantry collections are ongoing all year. Our collection box is across from the coat room.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Plagal First Mode. Psalm 11.7,1.

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 1:21-24; 2:1-4.

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

But I call God to witness against me - it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Gospel Reading

14th Sunday of Matthew

The reading is from Matthew 22:2-14

The Lord said this parable, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal First Mode

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him that with the Father and the Spirit is co-beginningless God, Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; for He was pleased to mount the Cross in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

Apolytikion for Martyr Mammias in the Fourth Mode

Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee received the prize of the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 Fourth Mode

In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: "The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life."