

## 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: Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop of Armenia

This Saint, a Parthian by race, was the son of Anak. He was born about the year 240 and was taught the Faith of Christ in Caesarea of Cappadocia. He entered the service of Tiridates, King of Armenia, but when discovered to be a Christian, he was subjected to many horrible torments at the King's hands, then was cast into a pit of mire with poisonous serpents and left to die. By the power of God, however, he abode there unharmed for fourteen years, his needs provided by a certain widow, until he was made known by revelation and set free. He converted to piety innumerable multitudes of Armenians, including Tiridates himself, and was consecrated bishop by Leontius, Archbishop of Caesarea, to shepherd the vast flock he had gained for Christ. He spent the last part of his life in retirement in the ascetical discipline, and reposed in peace about the year 325. Saint Gregory is honoured as the Illuminator of Armenia.

40-Day Memorial for the late†

John Deffigos

Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in hisMemory

Three-year Memorial for the late†

Dumitru Beceanu

Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in his Memory

May their Memory be Eternal!

**2nd Sunday of Luke**

**September 30, 2018 – October 6, 2018**

30 Sunday 9:30 am Divine Liturgy  
11:30 am JOY Bake Sale  
11:30 am Maids “Car Wash”  
1 Monday 11:00 am Senior Exercise  
2 Tuesday 11:00 am Chair Yoga

12:30 pm Senior Program  
4:00 pm Greek School  
7:00 pm DOP  
3 Wednesday 11:30 am Senior Exercise  
12:30 pm Knitters  
4:00 pm Greek School  
4 Thursday 12:30 pm Seniors  
4:00 pm Greek School  
5:30 pm Adult Greek School  
5 Friday 11:30 am Senior Exercise  
6 Saturday 10:00 am Greek School–“*Conversational Greek*”  
10:00 am **Antique Doll Show/Philoptochos Greek Café**

### News & Events

- ▶ If you have not already made your reservations, plan to do so today. On Saturday, October 20, there will be an evening of celebration for the beginning of Father Pat’s 30th year of service to St. Sophia. Tickets for the dinner/dance are \$40 per person; \$20 for youth 6-12; and free for children under five. Tickets will be on sale during the fellowship hour. Also note that there are sponsorship opportunities which will be included in the Anniversary Program Book. **Important note: Ticket sales end October 13.**
- ▶ Double your pleasure today! Start with something delicious from the JOY Bake Sale and then get a sparkling clean car at the Maids “Car Wash” (which will be held out in the parking lot). The cost is \$10 per car.
- ▶ Another special celebration will be held here on Thursday evening, October 18 to support the Family Promise of the Capital Region. “*Doors to the Future*” will feature gourmet food stations, live jazz, a silent auction and a cash bar. Tickets are \$60. See Georgia Fishburn or mail a check to Family Promise, 739 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 12208. Proceeds will support the mission to assist homeless children and their families secure affordable housing and long-term independence. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.
- ▶ It’s delightful. The Annual Antique Doll Show (a.k.a., The “Doll Show for Grown Up Little Girls”) will be held here this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will also be a Philoptochos “Greek Café.” Admission is \$6.
- ▶ Whew! Cross one or more items off your holiday shopping list. Whether it’s for your home or as a Christmas gift, select one or more beautiful, fresh Christmas wreaths and/or centerpieces for a fragrant and festive decor. The price is \$35 each and DOP will be taking orders today through October 21. (Delivery is expected before Thanksgiving). **Note: Special bonus plus save a trip to the post office. Fed Ex shipping is included at no extra charge to anywhere in the country.**
- ▶ Next week there will be a one-year memorial for the late George Dean Cholakis.

## Epistle Reading

***Prokeimenon. First Mode. Psalm 32.22,1.***

*Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.*

*Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

**The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11.**

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

## Gospel Reading

**2nd Sunday of Luke**

**The reading is from Luke 6:31-36**

The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

## Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

## Apolytikion for Gregory the Illuminator in the Fourth Mode

As a sharer of the ways and a successor to the throne of the Apostles, O inspired of God, thou foundest discipline to be a means of ascent to divine vision. Wherefore, having rightly divided the word of truth, thou didst also contest for the Faith even unto blood, O Hieromartyr Gregory. Intercede with Christ our God that our souls be saved.

## 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 Second Mode

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.