

# St. Stefanos Greek Orthodox Church



## The Light



### ISSUE 10 October 2019

#### Sunday, October 6th

Third Sunday of Luke

9:00 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

#### Wednesday, October 9th

6:30 pm Compline Service

7:00 pm Bible Study

#### Sunday, October 13th

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

9:00 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

#### Wednesday, October 16th

6:30 pm Compline Service

7:00 pm Bible Study

#### Sunday, October 20th

6th Sunday of Luke

9:00 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

#### Wednesday October 23rd

6:30 pm Compline Service

7:00 pm Bible Study

#### Sunday, October 27th

7th Sunday of Luke

9:00 am Orthros

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

#### Wednesday, October 30th

6:30 pm Compline Service

7:00 pm Bible Study

### October Usher Duty

#### Sunday, October 6th- Team 9

Nicky Stamoulis, Jimmie Detsis, Andriana Detsis

#### Sunday, October 13th- Team 10

Nikitas Dritsos, Jim Lenas, Pat Economou

#### Sunday, October 20th - Team 1

Maria Olavarria, Kathy Foltz, Tori Foltz, Christine Klimis, Anastasia Klimis

#### Sunday, October 27th- Team 2

Kathy Kokkinakos, Panagoula Skoularakos, Alexander Janas,

**Please be on time for your duty  
and if you can't be here, please  
find someone to fill in for you.**

**Thank you!**



Reverend Father John Stefero, Proistamenos

Cell # 678-637-4425

Email: [jwstefero50@hotmail.com](mailto:jwstefero50@hotmail.com)

Reverend Deacon John Pantelis

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Dear Parishioners,

*“Therefore be careful how you walk not as unwise men but as wise,  
making the most of your time, because the days are evil”  
(Ephesians 5:15-16)*

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

One of the most precious gifts that God has given each of us in equal measure is *time*. We all have use of the same number of hours in a day and the same number of days in a week. But the challenge for each of us is *how* we use the time that has been granted to us.

Saint Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians that we are to walk not as unwise men but as wise. The Greek word Paul uses here is *akribos* which means carefully, accurately, diligently, exactly as we should. The wise person knows God personally and watches each step he takes to make sure he walks throughout life in a disciplined and controlled manner. In essence, he is following the words in 1 John 2:6: “Whoever claims to live in Him (Jesus) must walk as Jesus did.”

Secondly, we are to make the most of our time because the days are evil. This means that this age is full of temptations and difficulties that will separate us from God if allowed to. Therefore, as wise men, we are to redeem the time, buying up and using every opportunity to do good, *doing the will of the Lord*.

One way to use our time wisely and to set the proper tone for each day is to begin with prayer. Here is a prayer that will help us to do this:

O God, for another day, for another morning, for another hour, for another minute,  
For another chance to live and serve You, I am truly grateful.  
Free me this day from fear of the future; from anxiety of the morrow;  
from bitterness toward anyone; from cowardice in face of danger;  
from failure before opportunity; from weakness, when Your power is at hand.  
But fill me with love that knows no barriers;  
courage that cannot be shaken; faith strong enough for the darkness;  
strength sufficient for my tasks; loyalty to the goals of Your Kingdom;  
wisdom to meet life’s complexities; power to lift others to You.  
Be with me this day and use me in accordance with Your will. Amen.  
(Source Unknown)

May each of us be careful how we walk and what we feed our minds along the way. May we follow the beautiful words of Philippians 4:8: “Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”

With love in Christ,  
Father John

Dear St. Stefanos Parishioners and Friends,

October is here, the beginning of fall! Here is a calendar message I found and would like to share with you.

*Be present.*

*Let the day flow with grace.*

*Expect nothing. Give thanks.*

*Surrender. Be open.*

*Speak only kindness.*

*Impact only love.*

*Never forget you're not alone.*

*Give so you may receive.*

*See goodness in others.*

September was another busy month. Our Food Pantry is well under way and will open the doors this month. The Care Givers had their first meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> at Panera's followed by a second meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Parish Council Candidate Nomination Petition papers were emailed and are also available in the Narthex and Office. This petition shall be signed by two (2) members in good standing of the Parish and presented, or sent by mail, to arrive to the Parish Office on or before, Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 by 1:00 p.m.

Our Bylaws committee has been working diligently to have the Bylaws ready for you next month.

Coming up in October please support our GOYA. They will be hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Volleyball Tournament, for all the Greek Orthodox Church GOYA groups in the Central Florida Gulf Coast, on October 11-13<sup>th</sup>.

Our Humanitarian donations for the month of September were, Beth Dillinger Foundation: Nourish to Flourish \$500 and St. Pete Vet Center \$500.

A date to remember: The Fall General Assembly will be held on November 17th, 2019.

Youth Safety update: It is time to become a (R)egistered, (S)creened and (T)rained Youth Worker! All Youth Workers must be R/S/T by December 1.

With Love in Christ,

Nicky





**The St. Stefanos GOYA  
is hosting their  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Volleyball Tournament  
October 11 -13, 2019**

This is our youth group's biggest event of the year. We will be hosting this event for all the Greek Orthodox Church GOYA groups in the Central Florida Gulf Coast area. This tournament will unite the area's youth in sport and will also encourage teamwork and build strong relationships to help them in their future endeavors.

If you would like to make a donation to help offset the expenses we would be very grateful. Your donation is fully tax deductible.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support.

Please see Christine Klimis or Kathy Foltz for more details or you may make your donation to St. Stefanos GOYA Volleyball Tournament.

**Philoptochos News:**

We had our first meeting of the Ecclesiastical year on Sunday, September 15, after church in the Education Building. We introduced our new Board and heard from our regular committees. We have some new committee chairs--Stephanie Kanellopoulos will be chairing Publicity and Vicky Anadiotis will be chairing Education as well as VA visiting. Presbyteria Denise Stefero gave us a brief report on the Metropolis Philoptochos meeting at our meeting, and we got to sing Happy Birthday to her! We passed a second tray for Holy Cross and were able to send \$300 to Holy Cross. We also had 5 new members!!

We had our first bake sale of the year on September 22 to benefit the IOCC for the Hurricane Dorian relief. All summer baking money was donated to St Stefanos. We fed Pinellas Hope, a homeless shelter run by Catholic charities.

In October, we will be helping with the GOYA 6th Annual Volleyball Tournament, with our time, talent and treasure. Also in October, we will be hosting the KOUTALI CLUB! See more on that! We will also be feeding Ronald McDonald House.

Our next regular meeting will be November 10, 2019, after church in the Education building. There will be a light lunch provided. We will be having a special guest, Linda Hangan, to speak to us about enrolling for Medicare, Medicare Advantage/alternatives, supplemental insurance and prescription plans. Anyone from the community who is interested is welcome to attend. This will take place before our meeting. We are only having 6 meetings a year now, so we hope more people will be able to attend!

COME JOIN THE PHILOPTOCHOS THIS YEAR! Please come and hear about all of our different ministries; there's something for everyone. We encourage ALL of our church members to join with us in order to fulfill the mission of the Philoptochos-- to help the poor, promote the charitable purposes of the Church, preserve the Orthodox faith, and promote participation in the activities of the St. Stefanos community. Gentlemen may join as well, but cannot vote. All are welcome.

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I want to be a member of the St Stefanos Philoptochos for the 2019-2020 year!

Name  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$35 for the year. Checks can be written to St Stefanos Philoptochos. Please see Visha Anevich.

**Choir notes:**

We sang the Hierarchical Liturgy with His Grace Bishop Sevastianos to start off the Ecclesiastical year on September 1. His Grace shared with us that he prefers traditional chant to the more contemporary composers of today.

We will be hosting Choir Music Sunday on October 20 and will be hosting coffee hour or a luncheon. A well deserving candidate who has given many years of their talents to the church music program will be honored .

**AGAPE SENIORS CLUB:**

First meeting for 2019-2020 will be on Tuesday, October 8th at noon. Please make your reservation with your caller.

\*\*Group picture for the directory will be taken. Dues for 2019-20 are \$6.00  
Menu: chicken, oven roasted potatoes, salad, bread, drinks. Birthday Cake

**FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING:**

Hi Everyone,

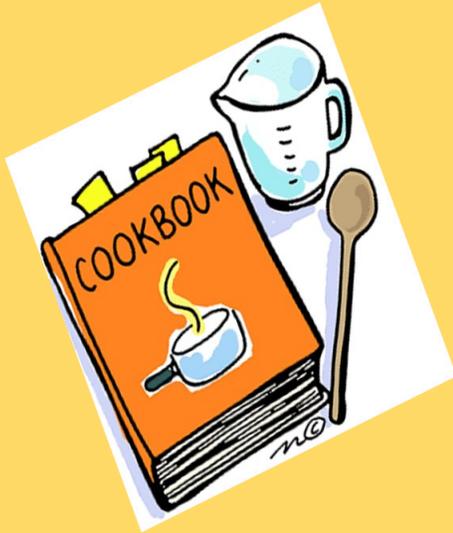
As your Faith Community Nurse, FCN, I am happy to inform you that Mrs. Anna Tischner has joined me as a Congregational Health Promoter, CHP, in our parish. She was very excited to take the orientation at St. Anthony's Hospital on Sept. 21st. Since I am the lead health promoter, she will be on my team. I am excited to work on programs with her. She is very energetic, out-going, and anxious to help with the ministry. She will assist me as a liaison involving the spiritual and health needs of our community. If there are others with a passion for health that would like to join our team as a nurse or CHP, you can do so throughout the year when another orientation is offered. Let me know! The bigger the team the better! The orientation is offered about 4 times a year.

Your FCN  
Diane Kotsaftis

# OCTOBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	7 Goya in hall	8 Goya in hall AGAPE 12:00 pm 6:30 pm P. C. Mtg	9 UAW Goya in hall 6:30 pm Compline Service	10 Goya in hall	11 10:00 am Prayer Group Volleyball Tournament	12 Volleyball Tournament
13 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Volleyball Tournament Wedding	14 7:00 pm caregivers' Meeting, Panera Bread	15	16 6:30 pm Compline Service 7:00 pm Bible Study	17	18 10:00 am Prayer Group	19 Food pantry 10:00 am- 12:00 pm
20 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy Choir Coffee hour	21	22 7:00 pm DOP mtg	23 6:30 pm Compline Service 7:00 pm Bible Study	24 SPIFFS	25 SPIFFS 10:00 am Prayer Group	26 SPIFFS
27 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy	28	29	30 6:30 pm Compline Service 7:00 pm Bible Study	31		

# KOUTALI CLUB



**Pasta's On!  
A COOKING CLASS PRESENTED BY  
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY**

Who doesn't enjoy pasta any day of the week or on a special occasion?

Add a new favorite to your list, like delicious  
**PASTICHIO**

**Chef of the Day: Vicky Anglo**



**Saturday, October 19, 2019**

**1:00pm – 3:00 pm**

**\$10.00**

**Wow your family for dinner tonight!**

Deadline for sign up is October 15, 2019.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. STEFANOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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