THE BASILIAN

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. BASIL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

IN THIS ISSUE

Metropolitan Visit

Stewardship & Compassion; with Overview of Giving YTD

Event Highlights

Altar Boy Retreat

Christmas Concert: DOXOLOGIA!

Parade of Lights

Christmas Pageant

Adopt a Family

Christmas Caroling

Ministries Info

Byzantine Chant Classes



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE FEASTDAY SERVICES OF OUR PARISH AND OF OUR PATRON SAINT, BASIL THE GREAT



December 31st, Great Vespers at 6:00pm Relic of St. Basil to be brought out for veneration *Reception to follow*

January 1st, Orthros, 8:45am, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, 10:00am Relic of St. Basil to be brought out for veneration *Reception to follow* His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos will be with us and lead us in worship.



DECEMBER 2023

12

VOLUME 23, ISSUE



Also on Jan. 1st: Vasilopita (St. Basil sweet bread) cutting during reception. All leaders of our various parish ministries and organizations will receive a piece of the Vasilopita.

For more information, please contact the Church Office, (209) 478-7564 or at: office@gosaintbasil.org

Stewardship and Compassion

Love and stewardship are inseparable when we consider God's blessings in our life.

We use God's blessings with love and compassion for others and to honor, worship and give thanks to him.

Our parishes can be transformed, becoming beacons of Christian love as we care for one another, face challenges together, and serve our neighbors. We would be known as Christians by the love and compassion we embody as a parish family.

We are called to be compassionate stewards, placing the needs of others before our own. Scripture is filled with passages of God's call for us to be generous, loving, compassionate givers. Saint Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians tells us of God's call for us to "excel in the grace of giving." We are "hard-wired" to live as members of the Body of Christ and serve our larger community with compassion and love.

The priority of compassionate stewardship is not paying the congregation's bills. It is about how we, as a community, can do God's work with love and compassion.

It is less about the parish's need to receive, and more about our need to give. It is our generosity with the gifts and blessings God has entrusted to us.

Compassionate stewardship is an attitude and a way of life.

~Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Department of Stewardship

Giving Thanks Eucharistic Stewardship

> G STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Stewardship Update

If you are able, please consider giving a meaningful *(to you!)* gift to help St. Basil Parish accomplish our mission and create our vision.

We are at 55% of our annual goal as of 11/12/2023 We should be at 84% of our goal to be on track.

Stewardship Donations By Categories (Info thru 11/12/23)

			-		
5721127		Number of	Percentage of	Total	Percentage of Total
Amount Given		Contributors	<u>Contributors</u>	Amount Given	Amount Given
\$0.00			38.69 %	\$0.00	0.00 %
\$0.01	그는 것 같은 것 같		0.73 %	\$50.00	0.02 %
\$25.01	2000 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9 E 9		1.09 %	\$125.00	0.06 %
\$50.01	- \$75.00		0.73 %	\$115.00	0.05 %
\$75.01	- \$100.00) 5	1.82 %	\$500.00	0.24 %
\$100.01	- \$200.00	13	4.74 %	\$2,246.12	1.06 %
\$200.01	- \$300.00	23	8.39 %	\$6,360.00	3.00 %
\$300.01	- \$400.00	13	4.74 %	\$4,910.00	2.32 %
\$400.01	- \$500.00	15	5.47 %	\$7,500.00	3.54 %
\$500.01	- \$600.00	8	2.92 %	\$4,718.00	2.23 %
\$600.01	- \$700.00) 7	2.55 %	\$4,790.00	2.26 %
\$700.01	- \$800.00	9	3.28 %	\$7,035.00	3.32 %
\$800.01	- \$900.00) 4	1.46 %	\$3,560.00	1.68 %
\$900.01	- \$1,000.00) 11	4.01 %	\$11,000.00	5.19 %
\$1,000.01	- \$1,500.00	18	6.57 %	\$23,480.00	11.09 %
\$1,500.01	- \$2,000.00) 15	5.47 %	\$29,475.00	13.92 %
\$2,000.01	- \$2,500.00) 7	2.55 %	\$16,650.00	7.86 %
\$2,500.01	- \$3,000.00) 2	0.73 %	\$5,600.00	2.64 %
\$3,000.01	- \$3,500.00) 1	0.36 %	\$3,380.00	1.60 %
\$3,500.01	- \$4,000.00) 1	0.36 %	\$3,954.00	1.87 %
\$4,000.01	- \$4,500.00) 3	1.09 %	\$12,950.00	6.11 %
\$4,500.01	- \$5,000.00) 3	1.09 %	\$14,650.00	6.92 %
\$5,000.01	- \$10,000.00) 1	0.36 %	\$10,000.00	4.72 %
\$10,000.01	- \$15,000.00	0	0.00 %	\$0.00	0.00 %
\$15,000.01	- \$20,000.00) 2	0.73 %	\$38,750.00	18.30 %
\$20,000.01	- \$10,000,000.00	0	0.00 %	\$0.00	0.00 %
	Total:	274		\$211,798.12	
			i≣ik#20		A INFORMATION OF

Average contribution of those giving =\$1,260.70 Average contribution of all families = \$772.99

Donate Here or Use the QR Code

Note: The total amounts given do not include credits, non-cash or additional gifts.

St. Basil's Events and Ministries

Trunk or Treat 2023



Fall Parish Assembly







Turkey Luncheon



Hope/Joy Ministry



Altar Boy Retreat



During the month of November, our Altar Boys took an overnight retreat to the Saint Sava Mission and Retreat Center in Jackson, California. Over the course of the stay, the boys were able to engage in fellowship, such as playing board games inside and going outside for games of basketball, football and soccer, and partake of discussions regarding the Divine Liturgy and the service in the altar.

Along with learning more about the Divine Liturgy, the group took a trip to Saint Sava Church in town. There they met with Deacon Dragan, who informed them of the history of the church as well as the iconography. Among the history of the church, Deacon Dragan explained that it was founded by St. Sava and is the first Serbian Orthodox Church established in America, and in this humble church, St. Sava, St. Sebastian, whose skull is among the parish's reliquary, and St. Tikhon of Moscow have celebrated the Holy Mysteries of Christ. How truly awesome it was for our own Altar Guild to walk inside an altar where the Saints have served. They were also able to meet with Father Marko, who shared some information regarding the church as well as his and Deacon Dragan's participation in the film, Beyond the Peak. After receiving Father Marko's blessing, and an icon card of St. Sebastion of Jackson, the group departed the church but not before allowing the boys to ring the church's bell. The Acolytes then went to eat at a diner in town before going back to the retreat center to pack up and depart for St. Basil's.







You are cordially invited to a special celebration of Christmas

For unto us a Child is born 66

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT PERFORMED BY

DOXOLOGIA

A male vocal group from Cluj, Transylvania (Romania), conducted by Gabriel Cupsa.

They will enchant us with a repertoire of Romanian carols that originate from Byzantine, choral, and traditional sources.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 6:30 PM

LOCATION: ST. BASIL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH STOCKTON, CA

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN THE CHURCH HALL

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TO SUPPORT THEIR MINISTRY

ST. BASIL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH STOCKTON, CA

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND VISIT FROM SANTA



OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL ONCE AGAIN PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIVITY PAGEANT IN THE CHURCH **IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DIVINE** LITURGY. PLEASE JOIN US! SANTA WILL ALSO BE PAYING A VISIT! **OUR YOUTH WILL BE ABLE TO SIT** WITH HIM, TELL HIM WHAT THEY WANT FOR CHRISTMAS AND TAKE A **PICTURE WITH HIM!**

SUNDAY

17

AT 10 AM





* Lodi *
Parade of Lights

Thursday, November 30 @ 5:45 pm

WE WILL MEET IN FRONT OF POST OFFICE PARKING LOT (120 S SCHOOL STREET)

COCOA AND SNACKS PROVIDED. PLEASE BRING A BLANKET OR CHAIRS FOR SEATING RSVP TO PRES. ANGIE ANGIESOTIRAS@GMAIL.COM





Best cheese on the market coming soon!

If you would like to pre-order any cheeses that was offered at the festival for your upcoming Christmas celebrations, please contact Celeste Kaisch for more information.



Types of cheese options:

Mizithra Mizithra/Parmesan blend Feta Kefalograviera



Email: celestekaisch@yahoo.com or text 209-351-1248



Sunday, December 10th after church: Shop for the Adopt a Family after Liturgy at Target on March Lane. Reach out to Pres. Angie for more details by emailing angiesotiras@gmail.com

We will be assigned a family and provided with a list of their needs. All items will be given directly to the family in need.

Let's come together as a church family and make their Christmas extra special and comforting.

ST. BASIL'S HOPE & JOY



Sunday, December 3 Following Coffee Hour In the Church Hall, 12-1 P.M.

Kindergarten and

Elementary

School Ages

Fireside Chat with Fr. Pete in the Fireside Room-Coloring, Crafts and Conversations about the reason for the season with Fr. Pete and Gabriel! Parents-please bring a sack lunch for your kids!

> E-mail Gabriel (gabriel@gosaintbasil.org) to let us know if you can make it!

GOYA CHRISTMAS PARTY For Middle School and High School

Saturday, December 9, 6 - 8 PM

DINNER * DESSERT * WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE GAME

Please bring a wrapped silly gift (\$10 or under) for game.

LOCATION: JERIUS & DIANA HANANIA HOME

Christmas Carol Practice

Join us as we continue practicing for caroling at our parishoners' homes in December 15 and 16! Youth, Young Adults and Adults are welcome! Next practice: December 1 Time: 6:30-8:00 pm. Location: Fireside Room. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided!

Women's Book club

JOIN US ONCE A MONTH FOR A POTLUCK DINNER AND BOOK CLUB FOR WOMEN FOCUSED ON ORTHDOX SPIRITUALITY, THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS, AND OTHER VARIOUS READS, PROMOTING GROWTH IN OUT FAITH, RELATIONSHIPS AND LIVES. THE NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, DEC 14TH 6-8PM

Please email Pres. Angie for more information: angiesotiras@gmail.com

LOCATION TBD

BIBLE STUDY

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

11AM - NOON IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM

Join us in-person or on Zoom as we reflect on the Scriptures and its wisdom for our lives. Please contact Fr. Pete (<u>frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org</u>) if you plan to attend and for more information.

11



Men's Fellowship returns 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 Godgiven potential.

Next Gathering:

Thursday Night, December 21 7:00-8:30 p.m. Location: TBD

> FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FATHER PETE:

frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org

ST. BASIL

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.

Gabriel Cupsa will offer a presentation on the various Christmas traditions around the Orthodox world.

Please join us for the next session: <u>Tuesday, December 19</u> 11:30am-1pm in the Church Hall.

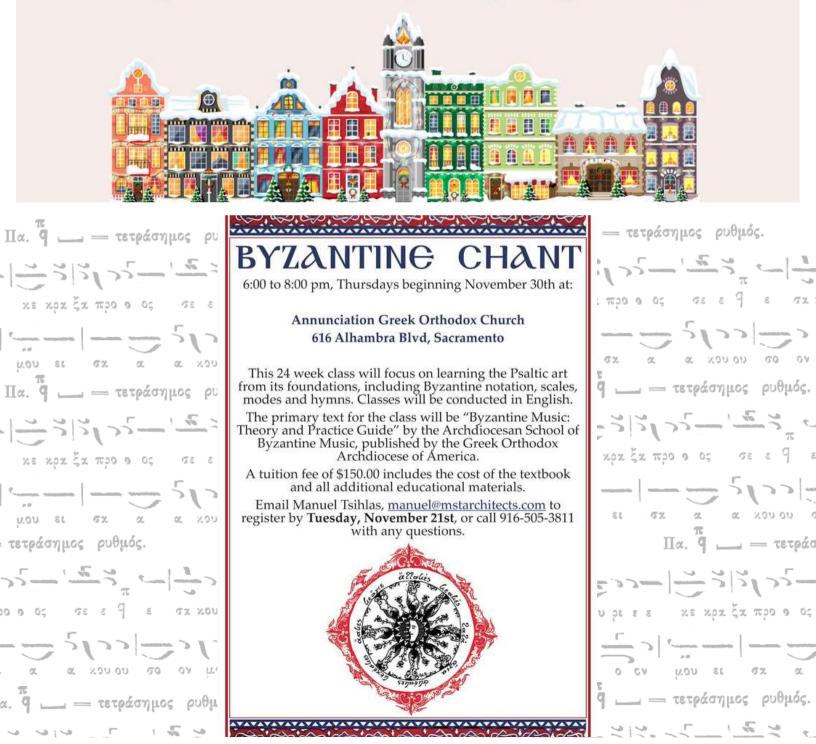
Christmas Caroling

Christ is born! Let us bring the good news of our Lord's Nativity into your home, as is customary in all the Orthodox countries. Let's sing together, rejoice and praise the newborn King!

DATES: DECEMBER 15 IN STOCKTON

DECEMBER 16 IN LODI

If you wish to join the carolers group or if you wish to <u>receive the carolers</u> into your home, please let Gabriel know through e-mail: gabriel@gosaintbasil.org





Argirios Adam Melpomeni Adam **Cliff & Georgia Adams** Nick & Kiki Aftias Vadim Agranovich & Inna Zvorkina Dean & Ruth Alexander Spilios & Georgia Aliferis Kiki Allison Angelo & Olympia Anagnos James Anagnos Popi Anagnos Steve Anagnos **Buck & Mary Bandy** George & Jihan Bandy Pamela Barksdale Robert & Marie Basso Becky Bennetto Dea & Ron Berberian Paul & Stephanie Bestolarides Ted & Kelley Bestolarides Jim & Terri Blum **Nick Bokides** John & Sunday Borges Jim & Mary Bravos James & Angela Brusa Ted Carademos Steve & Jodie Chiarchianis Tom & Deana Chiarchianis George & Janice Chimiklis **Emily Clifford** Joseph Compton Michael & Stephanie Craig

STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Robert & Rola DuBois Jessica Emery Gabriel & Emily Enescu Fred & Katie Everly Mary Facaros Chuck & Dawn Faris Nick & Jessie Farros Elias & Litsa Fidentzis **Georgios Fidentzis** Ilias & Litsa Fidentzis Michael & Edna Fields **Bill & Susan Filios** Demetri & Megan Filios **Barbara Frances** Michael & Patti Frangadakis CJ & Yumi Frank Ray & Anastasia Fulton Rick & Debbie Gaines Drs. Eddie & Elena Garcia Helen & Aaron Garner Veronica Gatrousis Mono Geralis **Emanuel Geralis** Bill & Angela Gibson Kostantinos & Sofia Giourousis Dennis & Noel Goehring Elias & Rana Goriye Mourad & Janette Goriye Edward & Sali Graham Stella Graham Abed & Sabah Hanania Jeries & Diana Hanania

0

William & Sylvia Hanania William & Sylvia Heinrich Eric & Ashlyn Howard Kristi Hyllen Ken & Maria Jochimsen Barbara Johns Sandra Jouthas Tasso & Gertie Kandris George & Kathy Kaplanis Anna Karelis Joanna Karelis Robert & Katherine Kassab Alan & Angelina Keigley John & Elain Kluve Demetra Kouchis Peter & Lori Koulouris Elefteria Koutsoulis Kosta & Vaso Koutsoulis Nasi & Katie Koutsoulis Ghazwan Krnfli & Barea Ghandour Dessie Ksidakis C.W. & Dena Kuchulis Anastasios Laios Nick & Kathy Leles Alexandra Leonidou Leo & Vasiliki Lewis Jim & Stacie Lofas Michael & Beth Louis Gayle Maduros Litsa Mandarakas Helen Manolatos



Danny Manos Diane Manos Patricia Manuse Angela Mariani Gary & Deana Mariani Michael & Jill Mariani Paolo Mariani John & Deborah Maroulis Mark & Joanne Marro Olga Mavrogenes Michael Mckiever Peter & Mary Mitracos Solomon & Christine Mourad James & Diane Mousalimas Tyler Musser Wasfi & Dallas Nazraween Alex & Popi Nicolaou Jonathon & Angela (Mariani) O'Connor Steve & Angelina Ortegon-Martinez Kimberly Palacioz Anna Panagakos JoAnne Panagopoulos Dina Panos Nick & Elena Panos Pete & Penny Panos Elizabeth Panos-Mazzeo Vicki Papachristos Lenna Papadimatos Dimetra Papadogiannis Wilma Papadogiannis Chris Papas Ellece Papas Andrew & Jennifer Pappas John & Paula Pappas

STEWARDSHIP Managing God's Gifts To Us

Harriet Paraskevopoulos Paul Paraskevopoulos Don & Cynthia Pascarella George Pascut Olga Patterson Despina Peppas Katina Perris Georgia Perlegos Helen Perlegos Jeff & Jessica Perlegos Jeff & Panagiota Perlegos John & Patty Perlegos Giannis Polizogopoulos Dean & Marie Poullos Antonia "Toy" Prescott Paris & Calliope Proestakis Robert & Kathy Prucyk Jon & Jessica Reyes Paulette "PJ" Rishard Kerie Rishwain Ray & Georgianna Rishwain Jim & Evie Robinson Gus Ropalidis Barry & Alexis Ruhl Nicolas & Brittany Ruhl Theoni V. Salcedo Stephen Saturno Alexandra Schoonove $^{\bigcirc}$ John & Rose Mary Siliverdis George & Pat Simpfenderfer **Tracey Sittig** John & Evette Sola David & Jennifer Sorour Nagai Sorour

Sally Sorour Fr. Pete & Pres. Angie Sotiras Spanos Family Jim Spanos Michael & Helene Spanos Milagros Stamos WIlliam & Maria Stamos Althea Tatarakis Shamla Tounou **Phyllis Trachiotis** Paul & Christine Tsampis Mike Tsarnas Eraclis & Marianthe Tsirelas Joann Tsirelas John Tsirelas John & Laura Tsirelas Niki Tsirelas Juan & Kelly Valenzuela Donna Vasiliou Rodama Veziris Nada & Steven Vicijan Jerry Victor D. & C. Von Trachtenberg Kathryn Walkowiec Steve Walton Christine Weibe Tim & Lindsay Wiesner Pete & Vali Wigt Leah Xanttopulos Bobbe Xenos Creighton & Bertha Younnel Elpida Zahos Maria Zarefakis Mathew & Eleni Zarefakis

Bacilian

Cliff & Georgia Adams Angelo & Olympia Anagnos Steve Anagnos Phyllis Anthony Dea & Ron Berberian Danny Bestolarides Jim & Mary Bravos Michael & Edna Fields Mono Geralis Stella Graham C.W. & Dena Kuchulis Alexandra Leonidou Gayle Maduros

Gary & Deana Mariani Pete & Penny Panos Harriet Paraskevopoulos Katina Perris Dean & Marie Poullos Kerie Rishwain Raymond & Georgianna Rishwain Alexis & Barry Ruhl Tracey Sittig Michael & Helene Spanos Eraclis & Marinathe Tsirelas Steve Walton Pete & Vali Wigt

ngela

Memorials

December George G. Spanos, 5 years

Please call the office to schedule a memorial. Call Demetra Veziris for Koliva (wheat for memorial service) at (209) 607-3068 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 Veronica Gatrousis @ 925-368-6556 or email HallRental@gosaintbasil.org 920 West March Lane Stockton CA www.gosaintbasil.org

FAITH-BASED

Weddings Baptisms First Communions Ouincenerias 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

Basilian Boosters



Kelley Bestolarides Ted H. Bestolarides, CPA

1502 St. Marks Plaza, Suite 8 Stockton, CA 95207

(209) 951-1040 Work (209) 951-2100 Fax

kelley@thbcpa.com

Basso & Associates EXCHANGE REALTY

Robert Basso

2027 GRAND CANAL BLVD #27 STOCKTON CA 95207

Direct 209-644-1714 / Office 209-951-2115 c21exc@aol.com / Cell 209-403-6996



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anna.karelis@evrealestate.com annakarelis.evrealestate.com



Reno | Lake Tahoe

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Call me for any real estate questions for help.

Turning DREAMS into REALITIES 🌇



December 2023

Saturday	GOYA (Middle/High School) Christmas Party and White Elephant Game, 6:00pm (Location: Jerius & Diana Hanania Home)	Christmas Caroling – Lodi	23	08	9
Friday	 Christmas Concert by Doxologia 6:30pm 	 St. Eleftherios St. Eleftherios 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Christmas Caroling - Stockton 	Acyal Hours of Christmas, 9:00am	*	 Eve of Theophany 9:00am, Royal Hours 6:00pm, Vesperal Liturgy Blessing of Waters to follow
Thursday November 30, 2023 Lodi Parade of Lights 5:45pm	Bible Study 11:00am	 Ladies Book Club, 6:00pm 	21 Men's Fellowship, 7:00pm (Location: TBD)	28	4
Wednesday	St. Nicholas the Wonderworker 5:00pm Orthros 6:00pm Divine Liturgy	13	20 20	 \$\$ 27 \$\$ St. Stephen, First Martyr Martyr 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 	™ *
Tuesday	2	St. Spyridon the Wonderworker 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	UP (Senior) Ministry, 11:30am (Church Hall)	(Office Closed)	2
Monday	4	11	18	25 HOLY NATIVITY 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (Office Closed)	January 1, 2024 St. Basil the Great 9:00 am Orthros 10:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (please note later start time for Liturgy) Reception to follow (Office Closed)
Sunday Strict Fast Wine & Oil allowed. Fish Oil & Wine allowed Fast Free	 14th Sunday of Luke 8:15 am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy HOPE/JOY after Coffee Hour 	10 th Sunday of Luke 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy PC Elections Adopt a Family	Sunday before Nativity Sunday before Nativity 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy Nativity Pageant to follow Christmas Coffee Hour	Sunday before Nativity 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	* 31 Sunday before Theophany 8:15am Orthros 10:00am Divine Liturgy Great Vespers, 6:00pm Reception to follow

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

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Rev. Fr. Panagiotis Sotiras frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org

Pastoral Assistant Gabriel Cupsa gabriel@gosaintbasil.org