

THE BASILIAN

FEBRUARY 2021

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 2

Bearing with one another in love

It seems like our society is more divided than ever. One of the reasons for this is because many times, people who are on opposite sides of an issue do not agree on the same set of sources or facts. This is extremely unfortunate and contributes to our division. However, like in any situation, no matter how dire, God gives the way to approach the problem in a manner that is spiritually and emotionally healthy and constructive and thus leads us towards unity and healing.



As a nation, we have been through trying times before, but these times seem incredibly trying. The following issues seem most polarizing--Covid-19 and everything associated with it, such as safety measures and restrictions with Church services; the murder of George Floyd and the protests which ensued in response; the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and everything associated with it; the assault on the Capitol and US lawmakers; the direction this country is going in politically; how one feels about President Trump and President Biden and other well-known politicians; not to mention just general issues of politics, climate change, economic policies, etc.—all these issues, while not exhaustive, are usually part of the division and hostility that exist in this country. In fact, merely reading the topics I just listed may cause strong feelings to well up within us.

How can we move forward in a constructive and healthy way in light of all the division around us? Above all, how are we supposed to process all this, conduct ourselves and engage with others regarding all the issues above in order to contribute to the healing and unity of our families, communities and country?

As always, the Scriptures offer great wisdom and insights to help answer our questions. Specifically, chapter four verses one through three of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians comes to mind. St Paul says: "I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

These verses are chock full of beautiful answers to our questions. First and foremost, this passage does not mean we can't disagree with others. What this passage does give us are the ways with which we are to carry ourselves when we are relating and even disagreeing with others whom we are diametrically opposed with. The passage reminds us that as Orthodox Christians we are "to walk worthy of the calling with which" we "were called"—in other words, we are called to act as Orthodox Christians and not be Orthodox in name only, when it comes to how we relate to those who stand on the opposite side of the issues mentioned above. If we are to be true to our calling as Orthodox Christians, we are called to exhibit the virtues which St. Paul mentions above—lowliness (also translated humility), gentleness (also translated meekness), longsuffering (also translated patience) and bearing with one another in love. Furthermore, if we strive to live by these virtues, we will also be contributing to the healing of our fractured and divided society as St. Paul reminds us when he says we will be "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." If living by these virtues St. Paul enumerates leads us to walk worthy of our calling and to unity, then the next thing we need to do is unpack these virtues in greater detail to see how they can be applied practically.

According to St. Paul, we are to be lowly (humble) and gentle (meek). Fr. Lawrence Farley mentions in his commentary on Ephesians and specifically regarding meekness the following: "...meekness is not about lack of strength; it is about self-control. The man who lacks meekness is not strong. Rather, he is at the mercy of his passions and his temper. The meek man has power over his passions....This is a characteristic of the Christian who walks worthy of his calling. In all the temptations and provocations of life, he retains control, holds his tongue, and keeps peace in his heart.."

When Fr. Lawrence says that meekness includes holding our tongue, it also calls to mind the importance of knowing when to be silent and not to engage in a conversation with someone. Our Lord Himself remained silent at times, not because He didn't care, but because He knew that there are times when saying something actually does more harm than good. We have to have that discernment to know when to speak and when not to. Often times, it's our egos that want to prove somebody wrong and/or to have them see or agree with our perspective. When we keep from entering a discussion that would not be fruitful and would turn negative, we are being meek.

Continued

The next virtue of which St. Paul speaks is patience. Here is what Fr. Lawrence says about this virtue: “The main thought here is refusal to retaliate. We are called to endure through all—insults, foolishness, setbacks, even disasters—and not lash out. The great example of patience given us is the Lord Himself. Though our sins...are always before Him, yet He still has patience with us, not punishing or rebuking, awaiting our repentance...We are called to imitate Him as best as we can, having patience with all.”

There is nothing wrong to feel strongly about one of the issues mentioned above and to have a discussion with someone. The problem lies when we abandon the virtues that St. Paul speaks of and which Christ embodied. In fact, St. John Chrysostom, the great Church Father of the 4th c. said, “If we are to have boldness, we must be free from wrath, that none may impute our words to anger. No matter how just your words may be, when you speak with anger, you ruin all...”

St. Paul also tells us to bear with one another in love. Fr. Lawrence remarks regarding this mindset: “To bear with one another is to ignore errors, sins, slights, and stupidities. It is to look past these surface imperfections and continue to serve the other. The Lord was forbearing, for example, when He overlooked His disciples’ faithlessness and inability to heal the epileptic boy (Matt. 17:17)...Yet despite His disciples’ lack of faith, He continued to “love them to the end” (John 13:1). So we are called to bear with one another, covering the other’s imperfections with the love of Christ.”

I would also add that bearing with one another in love means to not allow our hearts to be filled with hatred, disgust and disdain towards others but instead to have love and compassion towards them. One way to help us keep our hearts free from negative passions is to pray for those whom we disagree with for as St. John Chrysostom says: “No one can feel hatred towards those for whom he prays for.” And when we pray for others, we should pray for their well-being and for them to know God’s love.

What St. Paul is telling us is that if we are to walk worthy of the calling with which we were called, if we are to be true to our Orthodox Christian identity, then we need to be people who are humble, meek, patient and who bear with one another in love. I have seen many people lately, who profess to be Christian, and yet do not live by the virtues that St. Paul speaks of in this passage. What I have seen are Christians who are not in control of their emotions and who show hatred and hostility to those they disagree with in defense of their beliefs, sometimes even in the name of Christ—in short, they live contrary to the virtues that define us as followers of Jesus Christ.

If we do adopt these virtues, we will be, as St. Paul continues on in this passage, “endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Perhaps divisions and rancor will still exist, but we can say that we are at least part of the solution and contributing to the unity and healing of our communities and country. One might say that to live in such a manner is impossible and indeed it is, and yet, we also affirm Christ’s words that “with God all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26). In order to live by these virtues, we need God’s help, which means we need to pray constantly to our Lord to help us live in this manner.

I pray my brothers and sisters in Christ that we will seek to heed St. Paul’s admonition to “walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

With love in Christ,

Fr. Panagiotis

OUTDOOR LITURGY PROTOCOL

Please be sure to **RSVP as soon as possible** if you are coming - and who is coming with you - with Chris Papas: pcpapas44@aol.com 209-430-5559. This is for chair and covering setup purposes, so we can have our movements as smooth and safe as possible.

While we do have covering over the breeze-ways, please bring an umbrella, warm jacket/layers and head-covering. Temperature forecast for that time in the morning is usually between 40's—60's and partly cloudy.

If the rain were to become severe and/or the seating under the covering were to fill up, we may ask that you remain in your car and watch from your mobile devices, receiving Holy Communion at the appropriate time.

We will follow all of the same safety protocol with regard to physical distance, masks, and following the directions of our ushers. *Please refer to the protocols below.*

Watch the Live-Stream through our Facebook page (**no account needed**; click here for link: [Facebook Live Link](#)). In case we experience technical difficulties, feel free to watch the online services of other Orthodox parishes, such as the [Annunciation in Sacramento](#), [Holy Cross in Belmont](#) or the [Annunciation in Modesto](#).

WELCOME BACK!

Below are instructions to keep in mind before preparing to attend our outdoor worship services. In addition, please be sure to read the “Notice of Informed Consent” which is at the conclusion of this list so that you are aware of what you agree to by attending our outdoor services. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

- Those who have pre-existing health conditions and/or who are 65 and over are encouraged not to attend services and to continue watching our services from home.
- If you are exhibiting any signs of illness, even symptoms not related to COVID-19, we ask that you not attend services, for your own safety and those around you.
- Live-streamed services will continue to be offered through Facebook Live to accommodate those who are unable to attend. In case technical difficulties arise due to being outside, please visit the live-streaming services of the Greek Orthodox churches in Sacramento, (Annunciation) Modesto (Annunciation) or Belmont (Holy Cross).
- We plan to provide tents for shade but bring sunscreen and feel free to wear a hat in case we do not have enough covering for everyone.
- Upon arrival, masks are to be worn by all parishioners. If you do not have a mask, please obtain one. We will provide masks as needed. Parental supervision is required for children over the age of 2 who are wearing masks. Children under the age of 2 are exempt from wearing masks.
- You may bring hand sanitizer with you. There will also be hand sanitizer available in the Narthex to use upon your arrival to church.
- Children are required to stay with their parents in their seated area.
- Please no shaking hands, hugging, or physical contact.
- You will be welcomed in front of the Church by our greeters.
- Before proceeding to the worship service, expect to have your temperature checked and asked brief health-related questions regarding symptoms.
- Your attendance will be recorded so that if there is an outbreak and contact tracing is necessary, the parish will have a clear record of who was present for each service.
- You will then be led into the Narthex by one of our greeters who will give you a candle to light, and to offer a brief prayer.
- In an effort to minimize the handling and exchanging of currency, please consider purchasing your candles online from our parish website in advance. If a physical donation is offered, we ask that you bring a check or correct change since making change will not be possible. If you do not have exact change, keep in mind candle donations are not required to light a candle. No tray will be passed at the conclusion of the service.
- You may venerate icons by bowing, as kissing or touching the icons is prohibited at this time.
- You will be directed to assigned seats by an usher. Once you are seated, please do not move to different seats.

OUTDOOR LITURGY PROTOCOL

Immediate family members will be seated together. However, please be aware that immediate family members who wish to sit together must arrive together. If they do not arrive together, it is very unlikely that immediate family members will be seated together due to physical distancing protocols. Caregivers will also be permitted to sit with the person in their care.

- There will be specific directions for safely entering and exiting the service in order to maintain physical distancing.
- Please be aware that due to strict cleaning protocols for restroom use, we ask that restrooms use be limited to the extent possible.
- Due to physical distancing measures, the number of acolytes assisting Father in the altar will be limited. For those interested in serving, please contact our Pastoral Assistant Matthew Jouthas. Only those who have been given permission in advance will be able to serve. Otherwise acolytes should be seated with their immediate families.
- Choirs are not permitted to resume at the present time. Chanters will lead the hymns and responses from the chant stand.
- Liturgical books will not be available. You may bring your own copy from home or use online resources as long as service books/texts are not left behind or shared with anyone outside of those who are seated with you. We will continue to use the texts found online from the AGES Digital Chant Stand which you can access by visiting their site or by going to this link: <https://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/dcs.html> . Links of the service texts will also continue to be sent via our e-mail communications.
- You will be dismissed and guided by a Parish Council member or Greeter for when to receive Holy Communion and Antidoron. Please follow physical distancing practices when approaching for Holy Communion and to receive Antidoron.
- The Priest will wear a face mask as he distributes Communion in the traditional manner by the spoon/lavida. Communicants may remove their masks as they approach the Chalice only momentarily in order to receive Holy Communion. The communion cloth, if used, will be extended by an altar server without touching the communicant. The server will wear a mask.

[Communication from the Ecumenical Patriarch regarding Holy Communion](#)

- With pastoral sensitivity toward all parishioners during this unique time, Holy Communion may be received with an open mouth and head tilted back. Disposable napkins may be available as an option for wiping lips and then placed in a paper bag to be burned.
- Hand Sanitizer will be provided to cleanse after touching your mask.
- Antidoron will be distributed only at the end of the Divine Liturgy by either the priest or an acolyte, following strict protocols.
- Please refrain from kissing the hand of the priest.
- When the service has concluded, please wait for guidance from the ushers on how to exit.
- Parishioners are kindly requested not to linger on the church property. No social gatherings or coffee fellowship hour will be hosted at this time.
- After each outdoor service, the chairs will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized.
- Additional Divine Services besides Sundays will be offered. Having said that, due to the need of needing enough ushers to direct parishioners and to help them maintain proper safety precautions and protocols, services may be closed to the public if there is a shortage of ushers. We will notify you via e-mail if any service needs to be closed to the public due to such a shortage.
- Please be sure to read the "Notice of Informed Consent" which is at the conclusion of this lost so that you are aware of what you agree to by attending our outdoor service.

OUTDOOR LITURGY PROTOCOL

If you have any concerns regarding the above instructions, please e-mail Cynthia Pascarella (cynthiaj1022@att.net) and cc Fr. Panagiotis (frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org). If your concern or question is in regards to any of the health guidelines, please contact our Parish Nurse Doreen Bestolarides (dfbesto@hotmail.com). If your concerns or questions are faith-related, please contact Fr. Panagiotis or our Pastoral Assistant Matthew Jouthas (mjouthas@gosaintbasil.org).

We thank you for your patience and understanding with these measures as we seek to keep everyone safe and healthy during our worship experience.

NOTICE OF INFORMED CONSENT

WHAT YOU AGREE TO BY ATTENDING

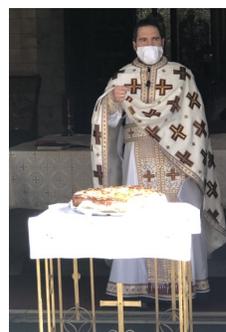
By voluntarily entering this church facility, you affirm that:

- You are not currently ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- You agree to abide by the physical distancing and safety guidelines being practiced in our Parish.
- You acknowledge that while the recommended CDC, State and Local, County, and Metropolis safety measures are being taken by the Church, the parish cannot guarantee that there is no risk of infection for attendees.

If you are not able to agree with the above statements, we ask that you remain at home to participate in the livestreaming of our services at:

<http://gosaintbasil.org/divine-services-on-facebook-live/>

***"During the cutting of the Vasilopita, St. Basil's slice received the coin!
May we all have the intercessions of St. Basil as we enter this new year!"***



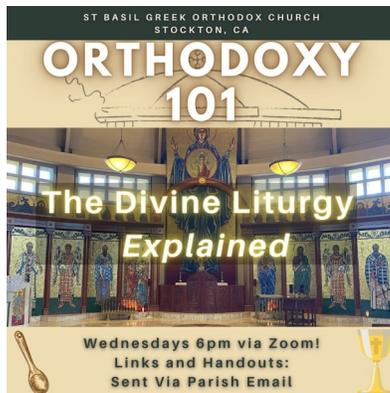
St. Basil Adult Faith Ministries for 2021

These ministries are open to all, Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike, and are meant to help us grow in our faith and love for Jesus Christ and to experience more fully and profoundly, His love, peace and purpose for our lives! These ministries will be offered only via Zoom at this time. A link to the Zoom meeting will be e-mailed in advance. For those who can't watch these classes live, we will record the sessions and post them on our St. Basil YouTube page. Our parish e-mail blast will be the primary way of communicating any announcements and links regarding the ministries listed below. If you are not on our parish e-mail blast list and wish to be added, please send your e-mail addresses with your request to be added to: office@gosaintbasil.org

Orthodoxy 101—*The Significance of the Divine Liturgy*—

Meets weekly via Zoom on Wednesday nights

6:00pm-7:00pm

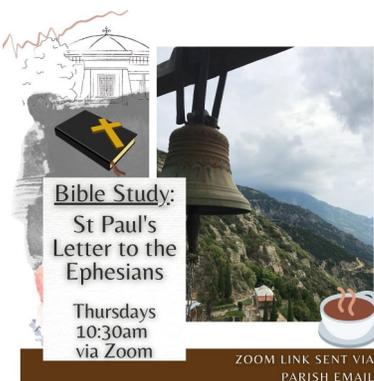


The Divine Liturgy is the main corporate worship service of the Orthodox Church and yet many are unfamiliar with its beauty, depth, symbolism and meaning. This class will explore the historical, spiritual and structural elements of the Liturgy and why all of these items matter to us today. For any questions regarding this ministry, and to be added to the official list of this ministry, please contact Fr. Panagiotis Sotiras at: frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org

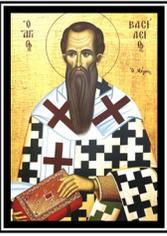
Bible Study—St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Meets weekly via Zoom on Thursday mornings

10:30am-11:30am



Growing closer to Christ and experiencing His love, peace and joy is very much connected to the study and application of the Holy Scriptures. Towards that end, this class will reflect on St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, with the purpose of applying the eternal truths found in his writing to our modern context and life. For any questions regarding this ministry, and to be added to the official list of this ministry, please contact Fr. Panagiotis Sotiras at: frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org



YOUTH CENTER | Matthew Jouthas | Pastoral Assistant

St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
 Ph# 209-478-7564 | mjouthas@gosaintbasil.org

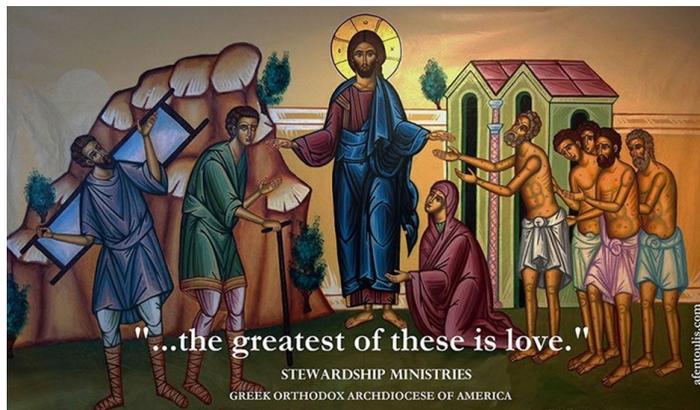
Instagram: stbasil_stockton | Facebook: @StBasilGOCStockton



February Meetings				
Day	Group	Time	Group	Time
Tue 02/09	Hope/JOY	3:30pm	Jr. GOYA	4:35pm
Wed 02/10	GOYA	3:30pm	Young Adults	5:00pm
Tue 02/23	Hope/JOY	3:30pm	Jr. GOYA	4:35pm
Wed 02/24	GOYA	3:30pm	Young Adults	5:00pm
Thu 02/25	Adulthood in Orthodoxy			6:00pm



STEWARDSHIP



Christian Stewardship is...

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love

...caring for the needs of others

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal

Williams & McKibben in Oriented Leadership

Donna Vasiliou
Acting Stewardship Chair

Stewardship Ministry Seeking Volunteers

Our parish is seeking volunteers to help serve on the Stewardship Committee. This ministry is vital to the financial well-being of our parish.

With prayerful consideration, please reach out to Fr. Pete & Donna Vasiliou

Fr. Pete Sotiras: frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org
Donna Vasiliou: dvasiliou@gmail.com

2021 Stewardship PLEDGE CARDS

Stewardship pledge cards are available by email or call Eleni in the Church Office who can mail one to you.

With prayerful consideration, please submit your 2021 pledge card to the Church Office by mail and/or email.

Email: Office@gosaintbasil.org

Church Office: 209-478-7564

2021 STEWARDS

In future issues of The Basilian, we will be publishing a list of Stewards, who with prayerful consideration, are conveying their method of giving for the year by either 2021 pledge card submission, by phone call and/or by email.

With your generosity, we can reach our giving goal of \$410,000 this year.



ORTHODOX ONLINE RESOURCES

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHT | COFFEE WITH SR. VASSA

<https://www.coffeewithsistervassa.com>

Coffee with Sister Vassa Inc. is a non-profit organization founded by Dr. Sr. Vassa Larin for the production of online and offline catechetical programs and religious education.

Sister Vassa (born Varvara Georgievna Larina, December 11, 1970 in Nyack, New York, United States) is a Russian Orthodox liturgiologist. She is the author of many scholarly articles, a monograph on Byzantine liturgy, and "Reflections with Morning Coffee," inspirational commentaries on Scripture and Liturgy.



Sister Vassa's online mission includes a daily Newsletter (with a brief reflection on Scripture), weekday audio-podcasts called "Morning Coffee," an ongoing video-course on the Divine Liturgy (available on patreon.com), and over 100 YouTube videos.

PHILOPTOCHOS

Annual Membership Due Now

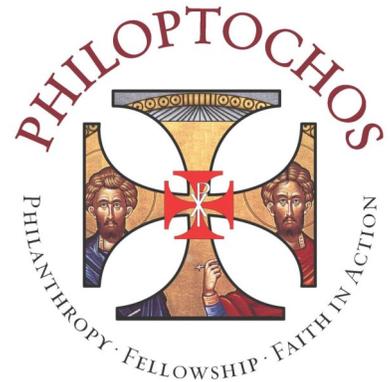
Support your Philoptochos!

It's that time of year again. Please help support St. Basil Philoptochos by submitting your annual payment to Gayle Maduros or the church office. Dues are a minimum of \$40 for the 2021 year. Of that, \$15 goes to National Philoptochos and \$15 to the Metropolis Philoptochos to assist them with their obligations. Any excess over \$40 is greatly appreciated!

National obligations are over \$5,000 and Metropolis obligations about \$3,500 - both amounts reflected 2020 and may increase in 2021.

Local commitments are about \$17,500. This amount includes the following: Angel Babies, Basilian Angels, Child Prevention Abuse Council, Emergency Food Bank, Feed the Homeless, Holy Cross Seminarian, Kids 'n Cancer Quilts, Missions & Evangelism Ministry, PAOI, St. Basil Agape Fund, St. Nichols Ranch lodging, Stockton Shelter for the Homeless, Women's Center, St. Mary's Interfaith Dining Hall, and Starting Point (Stop Human Trafficking). We also contribute for flowers at the church, Fall and Spring Retreats at St. Nicholas Ranch, Clergy-Laity Conferences, Sunday School Camperships and more where ever the need.

We encourage all the women (and men) of the parish to assist in supporting Philoptochos in their philanthropic endeavors. Please remit your dues ASAP as we remit to National and the Metropolis offices by April of each year.



Dear St. Basil family,

On January 17th, the oath of office and elections of officers of the Parish Council was conducted via Zoom. We are honored to continue working together and for our beloved parish of St. Basil.

Donna Vasiliou, PC President

Email: ParishCouncil@gosaintbasil.org (new)

ST. BASIL PARISH COUNCIL 2021	
President:	Donna Vasiliou
Vice President:	Peter Koulouris
Treasurer:	Dennis Goehring
Secretary:	Carla Wolf
George Chimiklis	Cynthia Pascarella
Dennis Goehring	Jeff Perlegos
George Kaplanis	Alexandra Schoonover
Lisa Kapogiannis	Donna Vasiliou
Peter Koulouris	Carla Wolf
Chris Papas	Maria Zarefakis

My Orthodox Notebook

"My Orthodox Notebook" is an opportunity for a brief reflection during our day. It is an email and attachment (link to the blog site) that provides a short quote, reflection, and resources as footnotes. It is updated every Wednesday and Friday.



To be added to the email list, contact:

mjouthas@gosaintbasil.org

The quote will be from either Holy Scripture, Writings of the Saints, hymnography/prayers, or information/history of the Church with a short reflection with resources noted for further reading (if desired).

Please bookmark the link to the blog site:

<https://myorthodoxnotebook.blogspot.com/>

It is my hope and prayer that through the intercessions of the Theotokos, the Ever-Virgin Mary and the guidance of the Holy Spirit that this is and continues to be something enjoyable, that inspires discussion in the home, and is edifying.

In Christ,

Matthew Jouthas | Pastoral Assistant
mjouthas@gosaintbasil.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Dearest Saint Basil Families,

I pray this year starts with health, happiness, and joy. I pray we can meet in Church, and hold Religious Education in our classrooms once again. For the time being, our teachers are still hosting Zoom classes. It is not too late to register, or have your child(ren) participate! With the uncertainty in our day to day lives, the certainty of God's love being taught, is very valuable to our children's mental wellbeing. The link to register is below.

May our Lord continue to bless us in this new year. I look forward to seeing greater Zoom participation.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjUFqFJIMS9QQd3uwSz3y7UM2RtrJcJiYi_yjx7sdKvgtvdg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Many blessings,

Anastasia Cook



MISSION IN ALBANIA

Dear St. Basil Family,

Thank you so many of my dear friends and prayer partners at the St Basil Greek Orthodox Church for your generous donations during the Christmas appeal. You are all in my prayers as we face this global pandemic together. Seeing in the news the high infection rate in San Joaquin County, I continue to keep you in my prayers.

We have begun a "Caring for Creation" Initiative here and joined in the Greening of the Parish movement that is impacting the Orthodox communities around the world. I encourage everyone to visit a wonderful website: Orthodox Fellowship of Transfiguration (<http://www.orth-transfiguration.org/>) to access their resource library. The wealth of patristic and contemporary theology is a true "treasure." We must begin to take positive steps out of the difficult place we find ourselves. I share this quote with you:

"Yet in fact the crisis is not first and foremost an ecological crisis. The fundamental difficulty lies not outside but inside ourselves, not in the ecosystem but in in the human heart. The present-day crisis, that is to say, is primarily a crisis not concerning the environment but concerning the way we ourselves think. What is the reason why we humans are treating our planet in an inhuman, intolerable way? It is because we look at things in an inhuman and alienated fashion. And we look at things in this manner because that is basically how we look at ourselves. As Philip Sherrard, among others, has rightly insisted, this means that we have to change our world-image, and this in turn means that we have to change our self-image. Until we do that, our conservation projects, however well intentioned, will prove ultimately ineffective, for we shall be dealing only with the symptoms and not with the cause." (Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, Through Creation to the Creator).



www.ocmc.org > Support Missions

With love in Christ Our Lord,

Anastasia Pamela Barksdale, M.Div.



SAINT BASIL GIVING



With prayerful consideration, ways to give are now by mail and/or PayPal. Thank you.

[https://www.paypal.com/donate?
hosted_button_id=V77MQMLLQDJCS](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=V77MQMLLQDJCS)

2021 Stewardship Goal \$410,000.00



GREEK FESTIVAL NEWS

The Festival Committee has begun planning for our 2021 Greek Festival, scheduled for September 10th – 12th.

Right now we think that by late spring the current health and safety restrictions will be relaxing and it will be safe for us to schedule a fundraiser, work parties and other activities for our normal 3-day festival. As our planning moves forward we will continue to carefully monitor the health and safety guidelines, and we plan to stay in touch with other fairs and festivals in the area as they make plans for 2021 events.

GREEK FESTIVAL



Mental Health Matters

A Conversation about Stress, Anxiety, and Mental Health

featuring our professional mental health speakers



George Papageorge



Rev. Fr. Tom Tsagalakis



Angela Colville



Rev. Fr. Timothy Pavlatos

Thursdays at 6:30PM

Jan 28 • Feb 11 • Feb 25 • Mar 11

The speaking series will be presented on Zoom

ST. BASIL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for the 2021 Scholarships will be available via email through the Church Office beginning Monday, February 22, 2021.

There will be a brief training and Q&A Session via Zoom at 2:00 pm March 7 (Meat Fare Sunday). Instructions on how to join the Zoom call will be in the application packet, and also the church bulletin.

If you have questions, please contact Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs:

Kathy Walkowiec

kwalk3@sbcglobal.net

George Chimiklis

gchimiklis@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Online or Outdoor Worship Services

Due to San Joaquin County entering the Purple Tier again, we unfortunately will not be able to have indoor worship but we are offering outdoor worship services. Of course, we will continue to make our services available online, and if there is any change, it will be communicated to you via our parish e-mail blast. Additionally, we hope to have a robocall feature very soon that will allow our office to update the faithful regarding the status of worship services via your phone and possibly via text messaging. In the meantime, we will do our best to get the word out to those who do not have e-mail.

While our campus remains closed, our office remains open remotely (via phone and/or e-mail) during our regular office hours of 9:30am-4:00pm (closed 12:30pm-1:00pm for lunch).

May our Lord continue to be with us during these difficult times as we journey towards the Lord's Nativity and may His peace and goodwill be with us and our society.

CURRENT PROCEDURES FOR CHURCH GROUNDS

Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Basil,

With our recent return to the Purple (widespread) Tier, the following guidelines of our current protocols and procedures for our church campus are still in place.

1. Church grounds remain closed to any meetings of committees, ministries, and groups. Please continue to use other forms of communication such as phones and/or video conferencing platforms (Zoom, FaceTime, etc.).
2. Only authorized personnel are allowed on church grounds. The Parish Council approved only a limited amount of personnel access to the grounds.
3. If there is a need to come to church grounds other than Sunday, the visit must be approved prior to arriving by calling the church office. The office will keep a log of who is coming to church grounds, date, time in and time out. There may be a parish council member with you depending on the nature of your visit. Always have a mask and hand sanitizer in your vehicle and wear a mask upon exiting your vehicle.

We must all keep vigilant to keep everyone safe.

In Christ,

Donna Vasiliou, Parish Council President
Cynthia Pascarella, Reopening Committee Lead
Doreen Bestolarides, Parish Nurse

2021 SACRAMENTS OF ST. BASIL

40 DAY BLESSING

Theodore Sotiras

BAPTISM/CHRISMATION

Sebastian Jadeio Sethi

Lennon RoseMary Stockard

WEDDING

FUNERAL Eternal be their memory

DECEMBER

Pete Perlegos

Ioannis Patronas

Nick Kosta

JANUARY

Helen Fotinos

MEMORIAL

Members of the Zouzounis-Allison family

Pete Perlegos

George Spanos

Nick Panagakos

Jeanne Argiro

His Grace Bishop Athanasios Akunda

Chris Manos

Iakovos Piskopos

HELP SUPPORT ST. BASIL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

by shopping at AmazonSmile

This year, we will not be selling annual ad space in the Basilian, we are now offering a new way for charitable giving utilizing amazonsmile.



What is it?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com.

The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Please consider making **St Basil Greek Orthodox Church-Stockton, CA** your charitable organization. Every item available for purchase on www.amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages.

How do I use AmazonSmile on my PC?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you are prompted to select a charitable organization from our list of eligible organizations. Search for and pick “**St Basil Greek Orthodox Church-Stockton, CA**”

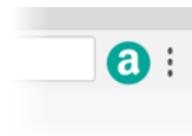
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To support charity, always shop at smile.amazon.com

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1

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If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, [sign up](#) on your web browser. Simply select your favorite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you.

2

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3

Turn on AmazonSmile

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (☰). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

AmazonSmile in the app is not available for iPads and other tablet devices

To shop AmazonSmile on your tablet, type smile.amazon.com into the browser.

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES ARE OUTDOORS. CHANGES WILL BE COMMUNICATED VIA OUR PARISH E-MAIL. OUR CAMPUS ALSO REMAINS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.</p> <p>8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Sunday School</p>	<p>1 Presentation of our Lord 8:20am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 6:00pm Orthodoxy 101</p>	<p>4 10:30am Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Sunday School</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 3:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p>10 St. Haralambos 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 5pm Young Adults 6pm Orthodoxy 101</p>	<p>11 10:30am Bible Study Mental Health Matters Series, 6:30pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Sunday School</p>	<p>15 Presidents Day (Office Closed)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 St. Theodore of Tyre 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 6pm Orthodoxy 101</p>	<p>18 10:30am Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Sunday School</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 3:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p>24 5:00pm Young Adult Group 6:00pm Orthodoxy 101</p>	<p>25 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Adulting in Orthodoxy Mental Health Matters Series, 6:30pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy 12:30pm Sunday School</p>						

St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
920 West March Lane
Stockton, California 95207

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St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

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