

# The Word

February 2024

*“And the Word became flesh & dwelt among us, full of grace & truth.”  
~John 1:14*



“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”– Proverbs 22:6

As the Beyond 50 Plan begun in 2019, our Parish strived to accomplish many objectives to improve and enhance our Nativity of Christ community as a whole. One of the ways we envisioned making our Parish strong and vibrant is through a preschool. With the hiring of Eleni Kelly as our Ministries Director and the knowledge of Daphne Cummings and Fran Corcoran, much progress has been made to making this a reality.

In the month of February, we anticipate receiving approval to become an officially licensed child care center. Upon this approval, we will immediately begin to engage our

community about the Nativity of Christ Preschool through a new website, postcards, social media, flyers, and large signage in public areas.



NATIVITY OF CHRIST  
PRESCHOOL

On Sunday, February 25, prior to our Parish Assembly,

we hope to have our first ever tour of the Nativity of Christ Preschool for the stewards of our community. It is our prayer that this new ministry will serve our Nativity families to further connect them with our faith and community life. The search for a qualified teacher will begin in March.

Opening a preschool is no small endeavor and continued gratitude is expressed to all those who have financially contributed to the Beyond 50 Plan. It is through these funds that roughly \$18,000 has been spent for the needed fencing, materials, furniture, licensing fees and safety upgrades.

As our Parish embarks on this exciting new endeavor, may the Holy Spirit continue to guide and direct our paths in the direction that leads us to eternal salvation. May we always feel strengthened to start our children off on the way that they should go that they may never turn from it.



# February Services and Readings

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All services will be streamed.

[Stream Services Here.](#)

Date	Service	Time
Fri., Feb. 2	Presentation of Our Lord	8:30 am
Sun., Feb. 4	15th Sunday of Matthew	8:30 am
Sat., Feb. 10	St. Haralambos	8:30 am
Sun., Feb 11	16th Sunday of Matthew	8:30 am
Sun., Feb 18	The Canaanite	8:30 am
Sun., Feb 25	The Publican and the Pharisee	8:30 am

## 2024 Parish Council

### Executive Board

**President, Nico Haris**  
**Vice President, Steve Rouman**  
**Treasurer, Paul Efstathiu**  
**Secretary, Eleni Scanagatta**

## SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendars for the Spring Parish Assembly on  
**Sunday, February 25, 2024, after Divine Services.**

## *Flower Sponsorship*

If you would like to sponsor lenten or paschal flowers, please contact Fr. John or the Church Office.

We need sponsors for:

- The Icon of the Mother of God 1st Salutations, 1st Friday of Lent
- The Icon of the Mother of God 2nd Salutations, 2nd Friday of Lent
- The Icon of the Mother of God 3rd Salutations, 3rd Friday of Lent
- The Icon of the Mother of God 5th Salutations, 5th Friday of Lent
- The Icon of the Bridegroom, Holy Sunday-Holy Tuesday
- Icon of the Mystical Supper, Holy Wednesday
- Flower Wreath for Crucifixion, Holy Thursday
- Epitafios, Carnations, and Rose Petals, Holy Friday/Holy Saturday
- Resurrection Icon, Pascha



# Stewardship

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## What is Love?

We as Orthodox Christians begin in the same place, namely with Christ who is God and who is Love.

The first definition of love as Agape is love as the action of perfect goodness for the sake of the other. This is the most basic meaning of love: to do everything possible for the well-being of others. God Himself has this love as the very content of His being and life, for God is agape.

The second definition of love as Eros is love for the sake of union with the other. Eros can be the utterly pure desire for communion with the other, including God who gives us the capacity to love.



Without Him, we can not love.

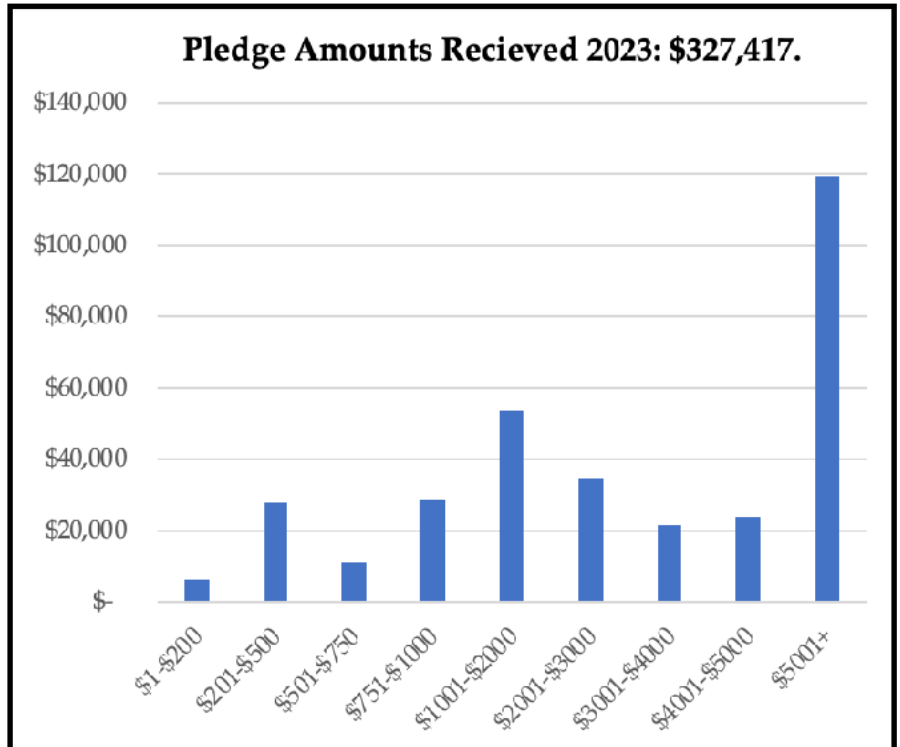
The third type of love is friendship - phila - where the word philanthropy comes from, which literally means "friend of man." Man has no greater friend than God, and God himself wants to be man's friend. According to the scriptures, the very purpose of the coming of Christ was to establish the co-working of Creator and man in the fellowship of friendship.

So it is that love as goodness, love as union and love as friendship are all found in God and there is no form of true love which lays outside the realm of the spiritual life.

[2024 Stewardship Forms](#)

Stewardship Ministry

Pledge	2023 Amount Received	2023 Number of Stewards
\$1-\$200	\$6,307	43
\$201-\$500	\$27,700	69
\$501-\$750	\$10,967	18
\$751-\$1000	\$28,928	33
\$1001-\$2000	\$53,724	40
\$2001-\$3000	\$34,781	13
\$3001-\$4000	\$21,423	6
\$4001-\$5000	\$24,000	5
\$5001	\$119,587	11
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$327,417</b>	<b>238</b>



Stewardship 5-Year Overview					
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Stewards	260	257	260	243	238
Total Pledged Amount	\$260,106	\$282,673	\$297,370	\$328,226	\$335,611
Total Amount Received	\$264,944	\$277,881	\$316,333	\$320,308	\$327,417



# Welcome to the Parish Council

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At the Parish elections in December, Bill Adams and Michael Yakumithis were elected. However two vacancies remained which becomes the responsibility of the 2024 Parish Council. With joy the Parish Council announces its two newest members: Nonda Kozas and Karen Walters!

## Nonda Kozas

Nonda Kozas was born and raised in Fremont, California. He attended Saint Nicholas in San Jose, where he served as an altar boy and participated in Sunday school, Greek school, Greek dance, GOYA, and YAL. Additionally, he was a counselor at Saint Nicholas ranch and Ionian Village. His passion for his faith was fostered by the example set by his grandparents, who were founding members of the Nativity of Christ church. While they are no longer with us, their work ethic, humility, love for the faith and this community is an enduring source of inspiration and strength.

Nonda is a civil engineer by trade and lives in Petaluma. He is a foodie and enjoys biking, but his greatest joy is spending time with his wife, Nicole, and son, Athan.



## Karen Walters

Karen grew up in New Orleans, raised by a single mother, with her older brother and sister. She was Catholic but left that church to be a part of an evangelical protestant church during college.

Karen moved to San Francisco in 1987 where she met the love of her life, Scott. They celebrate 33 years of marriage together on February 2. They have two amazing children, Jenny and Jess.

Karen graduated with a degree in mathematics and a teaching credential from San Francisco State University. Later she returned to SF State to earn her master's degree in mathematics. She has taught math and computer programming and applications for over 20 years. She has taught middle-school, high school and college level math at different points in my career. She is currently an accounts payable specialist for a large retail company.



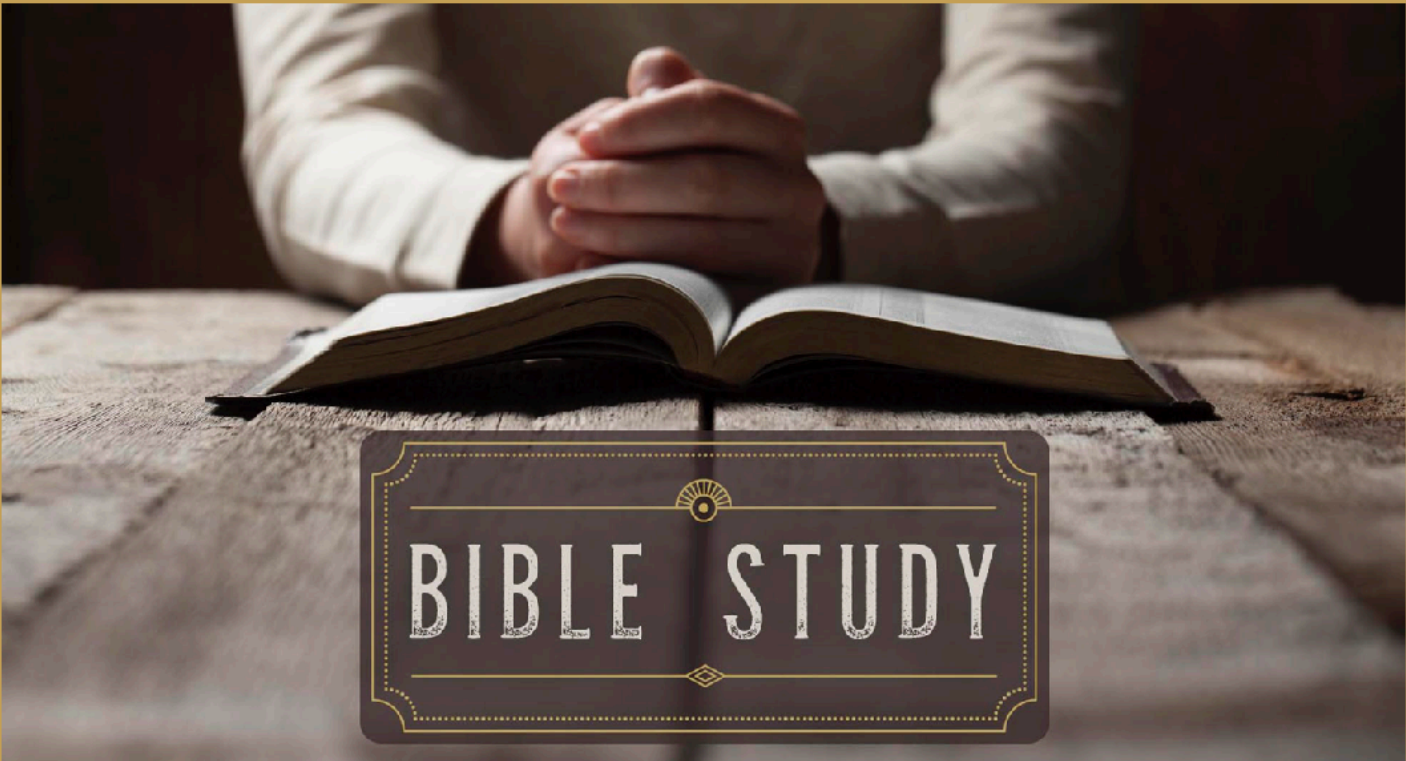
Scott and Karen decided that Nativity of Christ was the right place for our family in 2006. She converted to Orthodoxy. She was chrismated in the faith, their marriage was blessed and the girls were baptized all in the same weekend. They are all active members in the Parish. During her time here at Nativity she has served in several roles. Karen has taught Sunday school, served briefly on the Parish Council, currently serves in the Narthex and has been a festival chair for many years.

Karen looks forward to serving on the Parish Council once again and am grateful for the opportunity to do so.



# Religious Education

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**BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesdays 9 am on Zoom.

## Watch and Study Group

February 14: Season 3, Episodes 7 & 8

February 28: Season 4, Episodes 1 & 2

## The CHOSEN

Discussion: 7:30 pm on Zoom

Join Fr. John through Zoom as we discuss the popular video series depicting the miracles and life of Jesus Christ.

(All episodes available for free online at [www.angel.com](http://www.angel.com))



# Philoptochos

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## Upcoming Events

Feb. 6: Board Meeting:  
Feb. 11: Go Red Sunday  
Tentative Date

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting is a board meeting on Tuesday, Feb 6. The hybrid meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Join us at church or online with Zoom.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86242922166?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86242922166?pwd=bUVLaExpendua2o5eXFIRG55STFBOT09)

[pwd=bUVLaExpendua2o5eXFIRG55STFBOT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86242922166?pwd=bUVLaExpendua2o5eXFIRG55STFBOT09)

Meeting ID: 862 4292 2166

Passcode: phil

## Vasilopita Day and Bunch

Hope everyone who attended Vasilopita bread cutting and the brunch hosted by Philoptochos had a great time. Congratulations to those who got a coin.

## Philoptochos Membership Drive

At the beginning of the New Year, we reach out to ask our members to renew their membership and if you are not members to consider joining us. Your membership contribution will ensure that we can continue to support worthwhile organizations and institutions that advance our mission. In December 2023 we donated \$4900 to twelve local charities. We also support Johnathan's Place with meals, and two students attending Holy Cross seminary in Brookline, MA. Our Philoptochos membership form is on our webpage. If you have already sent in your membership – Thank YOU!

## Did you know...

### Philoptochos History

The Philoptochos society began the 1970's with new vigor and membership increased. New national and ecumenical humanitarian and educational programs were undertaken.

When Patriarch Athenagoras, the founder of Philoptochos, suddenly died, Philoptochos established a scholarship at Holy Cross School of Theology in his name. In addition, many donations were made in his memory across the US and Greece. This was the beginning of a scholarship program for the students at Hellenic College and Holy Cross that exists to this day.

## **The Minoan Dancers will attend the 2024 Greek Orthodox Folk Dance & Choral Festival Anaheim, California February 15-18**

### **Stop by the Minoans' technical rehearsals**

**Saturday February 10th 12-4 pm & Sunday February 11th 12-3 pm**

*Hear live music from Crete and Thrace, Greece • See our dancers' hard work on steps and styling*



Thursday evening opening ceremonies, Friday, Saturday, Sunday performances and the Awards Ceremony Sunday evening will be live streamed at

<https://www.youtube.com/@FDFLIVE>



Watch our newly formed Minoan Singers in Friday's Choral Competition *directed by Daphne Cummings*  
Watch our Little Minoans in Saturday's non-competitive category



## February Sack Meals Project for St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Room

Join us by giving back to our community. In 2023, Nativity of Christ lovingly made and donated over 1700 Sack Meals.

**WHEN:** Thursday, February 22, 2024, 9 am- 11 am

**WHERE:** NOC Kitchen

Please help us prepare 150 sack meals for the needy in our community.

We need 4 sandwich makers, 4 helpers to assemble the sack meals and 2 volunteers to take the meals to St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Room in central San Rafael.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094AAAA72FAAFF2-47131930-february>

If you are unable to volunteer, but would like to contribute towards the meals, monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Please send checks to the church office with a note that the donation is for **Sack Meals**.

For questions, please contact Elaine Chyrklund ([elainechyrklund@gmail.com](mailto:elainechyrklund@gmail.com)) or Mary Kay Stratigos ([mkstrato@gmail.com](mailto:mkstrato@gmail.com)).

Thank you for your support. May we continue to pay our blessings forward and give glory to God through our service to those who are in need.

**Many Hands Make Light Work**



**Thank You For Being So Kind**





# Upcoming February Events

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## VIP Gatherings

All seniors are invited for our monthly gathering after Divine Liturgy.

February 2 (The Presentation of our Lord)  
March 7

Please contact Vasiliki Tzafopoulos or  
Erene Sotiras for more details.



NOC Family Community Event

## PIZZA PARTY ARCADE - INDOOR PLAYGROUND

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2ND - 5:30PM  
ROUND TABLE PIZZA  
1565 S Novato Blvd, Novato, CA 94947



NOC LADIES ARE INVITED TO

## GALINTINES DAY



AT MANTRA WINES IN NOVATO  
FEBRUARY 9TH 6:30PM

XOXO HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE XOXO



## SONS OF NATIVITY

Trailhead

16 Feb | 6:30PM

Trailhead Cafe


127 San Marin Drive, Novato



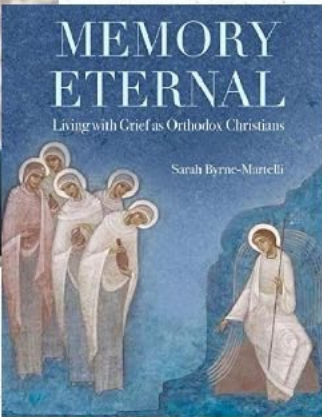
# Sarah Byrne Martelli at Nativity

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Joy Comes in the Mourning  
Living with Grief as Orthodox Women



Sarah  
BYRNE - MARTELLI



MEMORY ETERNAL  
Living with Grief as Orthodox Christians  
Sarah Byrne-Martelli

Online Registration Here


1st Annual Lenten Womens Retreat

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH 2024  
9:30AM WELCOME  
10:00AM PRESENTATION  
12:00PM LUNCH/MEET & GREET

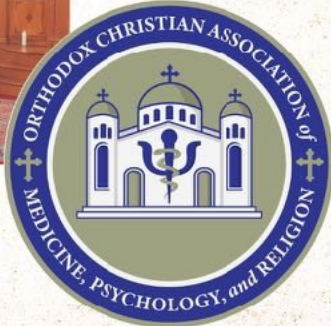
REGISTER WITH [EKELLEY@NATIVITYOFCHRIST.ORG](mailto:EKELLEY@NATIVITYOFCHRIST.ORG). TICKETS \$20

NATIVITY OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1110 HIGHLAND DRIVE, NOVATO CA 94949

Fear not:  
Encountering Christ  
in our suffering  
Join Us as We Continue Our Discussion  
with Guest Speaker:



Sarah  
BYRNE -  
MARTELLI



Community Invite

SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH 2024  
AFTER CHURCH SERVICE  
NOON - 2:00PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME

NATIVITY OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1110 HIGHLAND DRIVE, NOVATO CA 94949

## About Sarah

Sarah is an Orthodox Christian board certified chaplain and bereavement counselor, and has served in Acute Care and Hospice since 2002. She currently serves as the Chaplain for the [Massachusetts General Hospital Division of Palliative Care](#). She is also a [Cambia Sojourns Scholar Leader](#), and devotes half of her time to spiritual care research.

She is endorsed by the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese and Board Certified, with subspecialty certification in Hospice and Palliative Care, by the Association of Professional Chaplains/Board Certification Commission Inc. She is also the Secretary of the Board of the [Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion](#).

She joyfully mentors new chaplains and chaplaincy students within the Orthodox Church, and regularly offers workshops such as "Exploring End of Life Questions," "Joy Comes in the Mourning," and "Grieving as Orthodox Christians."

She attends [St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church](#) in Cambridge, MA, with her husband, Dr. Peter Martelli, and son Rafael. She holds a Doctor of Ministry from St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, and a Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Religion from Haverford College.

# St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

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Keep an eye out for the date of this year's Parish Oratorical Festival.

## JUNIOR DIVISION

(GRADES 7-9)

**TOPIC 1:** His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has earned the title of the Green Patriarch, and was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World, for His teachings about humanity's spiritual responsibility for taking care of God's creation — planet earth. His All-Holiness stands on the shoulders of Saints, who taught that the world is a gift from God, and that taking care of His creation is a way to connect with God. Explore and discuss the teachings of His All-Holiness and the Saints on the creation of the world. What are some of our practical responsibilities as stewards of our planet, and how does that enrich our lives as Christians?

**TOPIC 2:** Many of us have heroes to whom we look up. It may be an older brother or sister, an athlete, or a musician. We have heroes in our religious life, as well as people who inspire us to practice our faith. They teach us, usually by example, how we ought to live as Orthodox Christians. Select a Saint or person who has been the most influential in your spiritual life. Describe the particular and practical ways that influence has taken place.

**TOPIC 3:** On the Day of Theophany (January 6), we chant, "All those who were baptized in Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27). Discuss the meaning of this hymn and the obligations it places upon us as Orthodox Christians.

**TOPIC 4:** When reading the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11-32), we learn about the various stages of repentance. What are they? How do they relate to the reversal of the son's journey away from the father? What does the father's reaction upon seeing his son teach us about our relationship to our Father in Heaven?

**TOPIC 5:** The Orthodox Church has a rich heritage of sacred hymns that "contribute radiant and poetic splendor to Orthodox worship," thus, opening the way to God. Select your favorite Church hymn and talk about how it strengthens your faith.

## SENIOR DIVISION

(GRADES 10-12)

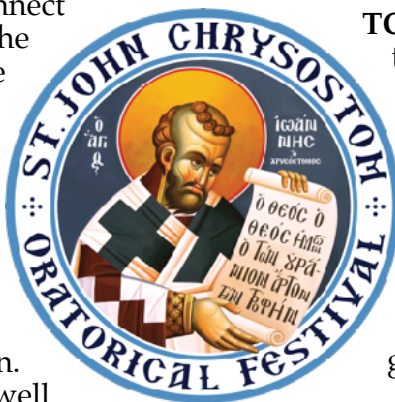
**TOPIC 1:** Slandered without cause, convicted without a trial, exiled unjustly — this was the life endured by one of the greatest saints of our times — Saint Nektarios of Aegina. Forgiving others who hurt us that deeply and unjustly seems almost impossible. What can we learn from Saint Nektarios, whose life was about forgiving what some might call the impossible?

**TOPIC 2:** Apostle Paul refers to Adam as the first man, and Christ as the Second Adam. The Fathers of the Church, especially Saint Irenaeus of Lyon, refer to Christ and Panagia as the Second Adam and the Second Eve. Why is the Most Holy Theotokos called the "Second Eve?" And why is Christ called the "Second Adam?" How do Christ and Panagia fulfill and go beyond their prototypes?

**TOPIC 3:** Christ says, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:1). He also says, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you" (John 6:53). Explore the Orthodox teaching on the Eucharist by reading the prayers of the Divine Liturgy, the writings of one or more Church Fathers.

**TOPIC 4:** The number of natural disasters worldwide continues to increase, resulting in more communities destroyed and more lives lost. How would you respond to someone who questions why God allows natural disasters to happen when we know God can intervene at any moment? If God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-loving, how can He allow evil things to happen?

**TOPIC 5:** During the Divine Liturgy, before the Consecration of the Holy Gifts, we hear the priest say the following: "Your own of Your own we offer to You, in all and for all." What does this petition mean to you as an Orthodox Christian? Why is it important for us to focus on giving back out of the gifts we have been given by God?





# Upcoming Events

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## Bay Area GOYA Lenten Retreat

MARIN HEADLANDS

GRADES 6-12  
MARCH 29-31

LOCATION  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 1033 Fort Cronkhite,  
Sausalito, CA 94965

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW  
organized by The Church of the Holy Cross  
office@goholycross.org



## SAVE THE DATE

Register Online at:  
[annunciation.org/  
elpida-lenten-retreat](http://annunciation.org/elpida-lenten-retreat)

### Elpida

A Youth Ministry of the Annunciation  
Cathedral in San Francisco

245 Valencia Street  
San Francisco

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH**

### Elpida's Lenten Retreat

Saints, Sacraments, and Stuffies

*Building Community through Faith with children in  
Greek Orthodox Parishes all over Northern  
California*

Contact Us For More Info

415-864-8000

[mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org](mailto:mia.fanourgiakis@annunciation.org)

[annunciation.org/elpida-lenten-retreat](http://annunciation.org/elpida-lenten-retreat)

**Grades TK-7th**

Limited Spots!



# TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday March 1st  
NOC FAMILY COMMUNITY EVENT  
6:00 - 8:00pm NOC Small Hall

Bring Your Family  
Bring Your Friends  
Fun Trivia For All!!!

Hosted  
by  
Jenny  
Walters

RSVPs Appreciated to [jennifer.walters1415@Gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.walters1415@Gmail.com)

## Greek Experience Ministry

Greek School has started back up for 2024! It's never too late to join! To sign up you can email Chrissy Zotalis at this email address: [griekschool@nativityofchrist.org](mailto:griekschool@nativityofchrist.org)

Also, look out for our fundraiser event on February 11 where our students will be selling hot chocolate after liturgy in GREEK 🇬🇷! See if you can carry out a conversation with them...





# Highlights from Recent Events

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## Apodosis Feast Day Celebrations December 30



On Saturday, December 30, His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, His Grace Bishop John, and visiting clergy offered the Great Vespers with the Blessing of the Loaves. Fr. John presented His Eminence with an epigonation depicting the Nativity of Christ that was worn at the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy the next day. We thank Chrysoula Capetanos for once again organizing a delicious meal as we celebrate her name day along with the feast of our community!



## New Years Eve: December 31

We welcomed 2024 East Coast Nativity style with delicious food and exuberant dancing for all ages to enjoy. We're grateful to Eleni Kelly and her family for organizing truly enjoyable evening for our parish family.





# Highlights from Recent Events

Connect • Engage • Grow

## 2024 Parish Council

On Sunday, January 7, the 2024 Parish Council affirmed their oath of office with Fr. John. We welcome Bill Adams, Michael Yakumithis, Nonda Kozas and Karen Walters to the Council!



## Family Night and Ladies Night Out

Our Ministries Director, Eleni Kelly, continues to organize wonderful family events on the first Friday of every month. Followed by Ladies on the second Friday and men on the third Friday. Join us in the coming months for these wonderful opportunities of fellowship!



## Vasilopita Sunday

The Philoptochos once again hosted a wonderful cutting of the Vasilopita on January 7 where each ministry received a piece of this blessed bread. We congratulate the Nativity Choir for receiving the coin and thank them for their dedicated service to the Church and leading the congregation in prayer every Sunday!





# February Name Days

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It is the practice of our Church to give the name of a Saint to a newborn child. By assuming the name of a Saint, we honor the Saint, and we also provide the new Christian with an example worthy of emulation. The Saint then becomes the Patron of the child, and we pray that, through the Saint's intercessions, God will guide and protect the child throughout the child's life. Each month, we will be acknowledging in our monthly bulletin those celebrating their name day.

If by chance we accidentally missed someone's name day, we ask that you please contact the Church Office so that we may correct our records. We extend our prayers to all those celebrating their name day this month and beseech our heavenly Father to grant them many years!



## **Feb. 10: St. Haralambos**

Harrison Geron  
Robert Harvey  
Edward Keller  
Robert James Oetzel  
Charoula Zahariudakis

## **Feb. 11: St. Theodora**

Doris Roland  
Theodora Tsiplakos

Theodora Zushi

## **Feb. 12: St. Meletios**

Alex Slenkin  
**Feb. 14: St. Valentine**  
Valentina Zoe Scanagatta

## **Feb. 16: St. Pamphilios**

Chloe Kamages

## **Feb. 17: St. Theodore**

Ted Captanian

Theodore Madias

Theodore Passaris

Ted Simos

## **Feb. 18: St. Leo**

Mario Lionel Saldana

## **Feb. 26: St Photini**

Gia Rishwain

## **How to donate to the Nativity of Christ from your IRA if you are over 72**

Using a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** is a great way for folks over 72 with an IRA who need to withdraw funds to meet a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to contribute to Nativity's Beyond 50 campaign or Stewardship fund. The money you contribute to Nativity using a QCD is not included in your adjusted gross income on your tax return, which is a better option than listing the donation as a simple charitable contribution. According to the IRS:

*A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is generally a nontaxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA (other than a SEP or SIMPLE IRA) to an organization eligible to receive tax deductible contributions. You must be at least age 72, when the distribution was made. Also, you must have the same type of acknowledgment of your contribution that you would need to claim a deduction for charitable contribution.*

## **A Lasting Gift for the Church – (Planned Giving)**

A bequest or gift through your will is one of the simplest ways to make a lasting gift to the Church. Please consult your financial advisor for advice. A suggested wording: *I hereby bequeath the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a charitable bequest to the Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church of Novato (Tax ID23-7122395) to be used for charitable purposes of the Church.*

## **More Upcoming Dates to Save**

March 1: Family First Friday

March 24: Annunciation Celebrations

# 2024 Stewardship Pledges (as of January 23, 2024)

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Presiding Priest Fr. John & Pres. Stephanie Kocolas	Gikkas, Stephanie Haginicols, Amalia Hajopoulos, Kathy Hall, Bryan & Paula Plessas-Hall	Papageorge, Christos & Despina Panagotacos, James & Diane Papanikolaou, George & Anastasia
Priest Emeritus Fr. Constantine Efstathiou	Hamill, John & Athanasia Hanis, Jim & Stella Haris, Nico & Nicole	Papanikolaou, Marina Passaris, Theodoros & Eleni Petracopoulos, Thelma
Pres. Evelyn Adams	Harvey, Robert & Elaine Hontalas, Chris & Susan Hontalas, Frank of Eve	Pineda, Andy & Matina Seremetis Psaros, Stamatis & Eleni Roland, George & Roland
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# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>4</b> <b>15th Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Sunday School</i> GEM and Dance Practice	<b>5</b> GEM Zoom	<b>6</b> Bible Study 9 am  Philoptochos Board 7 pm	<b>7</b> Minoans Dance Practices GEM Zoom	<b>8</b> GEM Zoom	<b>2</b> Divine Services- 8:30 am The Presentation of Our Lord VIPs after Liturgy Family First Friday at Round Table 5:30 pm <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>3</b> Community Crab Feed
<b>11</b> <b>16th Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Sunday School</i> GEM Fundraiser <i>Minoans Dance</i> 12-3	<b>12</b> GEM Zoom	<b>13</b> Bible Study 9 am  Parish Council 7 pm	<b>14</b> The Chosen 6:30 pm GEM Zoom <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>15</b> GEM Zoom 	<b>9</b> Festival Baking 9 am Ladies Night at Mantra 6:30 pm <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>10</b> Divine Services- 8:30 am St. Haralambos Minoans Dance 12-4
<b>18</b> <b>The Canaanite</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Family Worship GEM	<b>19</b> Presidents' Day <i>Office Closed</i> 	<b>20</b> Bible Study 9 am	<b>21</b> GEM Zoom <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>22</b> Sack Meals 9 am GEM Zoom	<b>16</b> SONs Night at Trailhead 6:30 pm <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>17</b>
<b>25</b> <b>The Publican and the Pharisee</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Parish Assembly</i> GEM Chesefare	<b>26</b> GEM Zoom	<b>27</b> Bible Study 9 am Mailing Team 10 am	<b>28</b> The Chosen 6:30 pm GEM Zoom <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>23</b> Festival Baking 9 am <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>24</b>	





Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church  
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THE WORD

February 2024

**GYRO-FEST-TO-GO**  
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE NOC DANCE MINISTRY  
SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND & SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD  
11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

**GYROS,  
FRIES,  
BAKLAVA &  
GREEK  
SODA**

**NATIVITY OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
JOIN US FOR FAITH, FOOD & "FUN" RAISING