

# The Word

May 2023

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



We celebrate the Feast of St. Constantine the Great on May 21, and we wish many years to our beloved Fr. Constantine Efstathiou as he celebrates his feast day. But who was St. Constantine?

## St. Constantine the Great

By St. Nikodemos the Hagiorite

The famed Dositheos, on p. 80 of his *Dodekavivlos*, writes how although during the time of Pope Urban VIII (1568-1644) it was requested that the memory of Constantine the Great should be celebrated as a Saint, immediately he said yes. Accordingly, in the area of Calabria in Italy, there appears to be an old church of the Saint. Yet, Constantine the Great always was a Saint and Equal to the Apostles, for so he was called in the Minutes of the Ecumenical Synods, as well as in the common and traditional glory of the Church.



Besides, he was anointed Priest and King, through the ministry of his rule, and through the noetic chrism and myrrh of the Priesthood. Thus the Church chants in his doxastikon the following verse: “Receiving the knowledge of the Spirit, you were anointed with oil as Priest and King, supporting the Orthodoxy of the Church of God.” Therefore it is written in the Apocalypse: “And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth” (Rev. 5:10). Assuredly not everyone who has been baptized in Him is a Priest,

as in the nonsense of the Lutherans and Calvinists, but the Orthodox kings are guardians of ecclesiastical affairs and take care of it.

The most Christian Constantine was preeminently a King and Bishop, and one can see in Dositheos, on p. 212 of his *Dodekavivlos*, where it is proved that Constantine the Great, although an Orthodox king, was a Bishop in twenty-six ways. On the occasion of his entertaining a company of Bishops, the blessed one kindly said to them: “I also am a Bishop. You are Bishops of the inner man, established on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets. I am a Bishop of the outer and inner man. Of the outer because I take care of their education and correct way of life. It is not without purpose that I wear a sword. Of the inner, because I am a co-worker with you of the certification and increase of the Orthodox faith, also established on the same foundation of the Apostles and Prophets” (p. 217 of the *Dodekavivlos*).

Dositheos says at this point that Constantine the Great established a law, not to condemn hereafter anyone to death by crucifixion, so that the instrument of salvation and life should not become once again an instrument of condemnation and death. Thus all kings who call themselves Christians, have kept and keep this law, and do not condemn anyone to death by crucifixion.

# May Services and Readings

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All Divine Services on Sundays and weekdays begin with Orthros at 8:30 am followed by the Divine Liturgy. Other services will begin as noted. All services will be streamed. [Stream Services Here.](#)



Sun	May 7	The Paralytic	Acts 9:32-42	John 5:1-15
Sun	May 14	The Samaritan Woman	Acts 11:19-30	John 4:5-42
Sun	May 21	The Blind Man	Acts 26:1, 12-20	John 9:1-38
Thus	May 25	Holy Ascension	Acts 1:1-12	Luke 24:36-53
Sun	May 28	Fathers of the 1st Council	Acts 20:16-18, 28-36	John 17:1-13
Sat	June 3	Saturday of Souls	1 Thessalonians 4:13-17	John 21:14-25
Sun	June 4	Holy Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11	John 7:37-52, 8:12

## Stewardship

*Xristos Anesti! Truly He has Risen!*

*"Bring them to Me"*

Jesus is concerned about the 5,000 men plus women and children who are with him in the wilderness. His disciples tell him that all they have are five loaves of bread and two small fish that a boy has offered. Jesus' response is the phrase "Bring them to me." Jesus then takes the loaves, blesses and breaks them, and feeds 5,000 men, women and children. We also bring what we have to Jesus. We offer bread and wine. He returns it to us as His body and blood in Holy Communion. We offer ourselves and we become the Church, His body on earth. No matter how much we give, He cannot be outdone. Just like the boy who offered the loaves and the fish, if we offer what we have, however great or small our gifts, with prayer and humility, God will receive our gifts and multiply them to feed His people.

Lord Jesus Christ, our God, accept our offerings as You have accepted the gifts of Your people throughout the ages. We offer these gifts to Your glory, for the support of the ministries of Your Holy Church for the alleviation of suffering and hunger, and for the proclamation of Your Gospel to the whole world. Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts You have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy and love. May Your name be glorified forever. Amen.

[www.nativityofchrist.org/giving](http://www.nativityofchrist.org/giving)



# Beyond 50: 10 Steps to Parish Health (Part 3 of 3)

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During the pandemic, the Archdiocese offered parishes a 10-step guide to a healthy community. As the Archdiocese article states:

*“The steps listed here may be reminders to some and new information to others. In leading through this crisis and the changes it imposes on our ministry, it is important at every opportunity to communicate our vision for the future of our parish.”*

Below is the third part listing of how Nativity is addressing these steps through the Beyond 50 Plan.

## **8. Celebrate milestones and anniversaries.**

Honor members of the church for accomplishments, birthdays, and other milestones. Acknowledge publicly those who give generously of time and treasure. Church milestones and anniversaries could be commemorated as a celebration of all who made them possible. Take every opportunity to express gratitude, lifting up examples for others to emulate.

### **So, what is Nativity doing?**

- **Celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish and initiated the Beyond 50 Plan.**
- **List parishioner name days and stewardship pledges in each monthly bulletin.**
- **Always acknowledge donations and church improvements to encourage joyful giving.**



## **NATIVITY OF CHRIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH BEYOND 50**

### **9. Encourage youth and young professionals to organize events.**

Recruit youth leaders to organize a movie night or other event. A family-friendly film in the church parking lot, with a concession stand and a small raffle may be exactly what we need to lift our spirits. Use this event to collect food or clothing for the local pantry or shelter. Movie night can be a way of teaching our youth how to organize and contribute to parish ministries. Young professionals need to be empowered.

### **So, what is Nativity doing?**

- **During and after Covid, we continue to offer events and ministries for fellowship and spiritual enrichment.**
- **Young professionals are leading ministries and the Parish Council.**
- **We encourage students to lead programs and ministries.**

### **10. Educational Events**

In the words of Fr. Thomas Hopko, “An Orthodox Christian parish ... is essentially a teaching and learning community for its believers.” Possibly our greatest mission in

the 21st Century is to counteract misperceptions of the faith and to instruct our people in the basics of our faith. A major component of outreach is first reaching in and getting our parishioners to be informed and enthusiastic Orthodox Christians. Visiting speakers and virtual presentations in theology, parish ministry, Church music, missions, community service and more will help to uplift and inspire parish membership, further engaging them in the life of the church.

### **So, what is Nativity doing?**

- **We have hosted speakers like Dr. Philip Mamalakis and Bishop Neofitos.**
- **Promoting local presentations and speakers at other parishes.**
- **Encouraging participation in summer camp, Project Mexico, and OCMC events.**

### **Vision, Passion & Inspiration**

Each parish is located in a particular environment and made up of people with specific needs, skills, interests and education. Every parish will have a different vision for the ministry that lies before them. Clear vision brings passion. Parish leadership is encouraged to hammer out a vision for the future of their church. Vision causes people to imagine the future of their church and to develop concrete steps to realize that vision. If we are passionate about ministry, that passion will be contagious and our people will be inspired.



# Lenten and Holy Week Flowers

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## Flower Donations

We thank these parishioners for their donations towards flowers during Lent and Holy Week.

**Pres. Evelyn Adams**

**Sonia Bechaka**

**Dennis and Anna Cordellos**

**Fr. Constantine Efstathui**

**Paul and Kristen Efstathui**

**John and Rose Hunter**

**Antonia Lendaris**

**Sofia Petridis-Lim**

**Nina Sestacov**

**John and Susan Stockton**

**George Tacticos**

**Dan and Stacey Weeks**

## Kouvouklion

On Great Friday we gathered to decorate our church's beautiful Kouvouklion, led by Stassie Sideris and Nicole Meehan. The lower portion was the artistry of Katina Orologas and Sophia Stathis. The beautiful crown was the talent of Kathy Marshall and Vickie Mavromihalis. Thank you to all our helpers: Patrick Fuss, Irene Meehan, Cheryl Messner, Kay Simon, Evi Smith, Erene Sotiras, Christina Thomatos, and Bessie Tzafopoulos.





# Philoptochos

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## Next Meeting

Our next meeting is a General meeting on Tuesday, May 2, at 7 pm on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83158313960?pwd=V0xTM0xEV3RMaFNZbGJ3Qy9CbNFIQT09>

Meeting ID: 831 5831 3960

Passcode: phil

## Upcoming Events

May 2: General Meeting

May 7: Philoptochos election

May 14: Philoptochos board sworn in

May 21: Scholarship Fellowship

Hour and Sunday School graduates



## Palm Sunday

Thank you to all who helped provide the wonderful Palm Sunday luncheon.



## Philoptochos Scholarships

A priority for Archbishop Athenagoras was education. Locally, we support students graduating high school or continuing their college education. Please apply for one of three \$1000 scholarships from Philoptochos. The deadline is May 7. See flyer on page 13 and application for more information.

Our 2023 Membership total is 102. We welcome the 10 new Philoptochos members. THANK YOU to all who have joined and made generous donations.

## Fellowship Hour

Starting June 4 - Sept. 3. There are no groups assigned for hosting Fellowship Hour. During these months regular coffee and tea and a light refreshment such as cookies and fruit are served. If you like to participate in bringing an item and

making the coffee during the summer that would be great. Please contact Irene Meehan [imeehan715@gmail.com](mailto:imeehan715@gmail.com)

## Summer Camp at St. Nicholas Ranch

In support of our church youth, Philoptochos is offering a one-time stipend of \$250 per child to reduce the cost of attending camp. Our Metropolis Summer Camp has a rich tradition supporting Orthodox life. Daily liturgical services, daily activity rotations such as arts & crafts, aquatics, athletics, faith & culture, fishing, canoeing, archery, an opportunity to visit the Monastery, and evening activities.

Registration is now open. See this website for more information.

<https://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp#/summer-camp-2023>



# Religious Education

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## Sunday School

Sunday School will meet May 7, 14, and 21 this month. Please also join us for the end of the year celebration on Sunday, May 21.

## *Journey to Fullness*

Since we recently completed our video series, Fr. John will now be leading discussions regarding common questions that many Orthodox Christians may have. Join us as Fr. John gives both theological and historical explanations. Contact Fr. John if you have a question you'd like him to answer! Join us Wednesday, May 3, and 17 at 7:30 pm via [Zoom](#). ALL ARE WELCOME!

## *Bible Study*

**Tuesdays at 9 am. We are studying important aspects of the Bible via [Zoom](#). Email Fr. John for more information.**



## Lazarus Saturday

Saturday, April 8 was a blessed day celebrating the raising of Lazarus. Thank you to all who helped fold palm crosses for Palm Sunday. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!





# VIP Gatherings

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## VIPs

On Friday, April 21, after celebration of the Divine Liturgy for the Life-Giving Spring, our VIPs gathered for our monthly fellowship. A delicious meal was enjoyed and we sang to our April birthdays: Cheryl Messner and Marina Kocolas.



## May Sack Meal Project

Friday May 12, 2023 from

9:30 am to 11 am

To Volunteer, click SignUp Genius link below

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DAFA82AA6FA7-maysack>

For more information, contact Cheryl Messner (415) 450-1440 or [clsimone123@gmail.com](mailto:clsimone123@gmail.com)

## *Minoan Dancers*

Dance practices will be starting on May 3 to prep for the Festival.

New dancers welcome, no experience needed, contact Effie Fourakis at [effiejf@me.com](mailto:effiejf@me.com)





# *Palm Sunday*

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## *More Scenes from the Great Friday Retreat*





# Great Friday Retreat

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We thank Presvytera Stephanie and the teachers of our Sunday school for organizing a wonderful Great Friday Retreat. Through engaging lessons and educational crafts, the students learned about how we use the kouvouklion and epitafios to commemorate our Lord's Crucifixion and Resurrection.





# 2023 Marin Greek Festival

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*Many hands will be needed throughout the upcoming month to set up and finalize preparations for our festival.*

## Volunteers

First & foremost, SIGN UP to volunteer, we need everyone to sign up for at least one shift if not more.

## Admissions / Entrance

We are in need of a chair. Please contact Rose Hunter (415) 497-8300

## Community Service Hours

Please contact the Steering Committee if your school requires Community Service hours. We have many tasks available for Students.

## Set Up Dates

Please contact Nico Haris, (415) 246-4189, if you are available to assist with setup on Saturday, May 20. Mike Madias (415) 717-3794 will be chairing set up this year, please contact him if you are available to assist the week of May 22. On Thursday evening, May 25 and Friday, May 26 all booths need to be set up and ready for when the 2023 Festival opens at 5:00 PM on Friday, May 26!

## Food Prep - Upcoming Food Prep Dates

**Saturday, May 6:** Pastichio 9 am

**Monday, May 15: Kourabethes** (Trying something new! Would like a morning shift to make them (~9:00 - 12:30) and afternoon shift to package (~12:00 - 3:00). We can all have lunch together around noon)

**Friday, May 19:** Baklava 9 am

### **Dates to be Determined:**

Spanakopita  
Skewering Souvlaki  
Marinating Chicken  
Prep Dolmathes  
Fasolakia & Gigantes

For pastry questions, contact Matina Seremetis at 415-297-7501 or [MatinaSeremetis@gmail.com](mailto:MatinaSeremetis@gmail.com).

For savory questions, contact Rose Hunter at (415) 497-8300 [kynegos@hotmail.com](mailto:kynegos@hotmail.com).

## Festival Sponsorships

**Friends and Lovers of the Festival**

**Sponsorships, program ads, and donations are vital to our success.**

**(But maybe you missed the deadline)**

**It's not too late to make an impact!**

**Just make your donation to Nativity of Christ and deliver to the Church Office.**

**We thank you!**



## *Pascha Picnic*

Christ is Risen! The winds on Pascha morning may have moved the picnic inside, but it didn't stop the community from celebrating our Lord's Resurrection. Over 125 faithful brought delicious food while the children also enjoyed an egg hunt and memorable fellowship. Truly the Lord is Risen!



## *St. George's Day Picnic*

As we celebrated the Feast of St. George the Great Martyr on April 23, we thank all the George and Georgias of our parish for hosting an amazing feast day picnic with delicious food and beautiful fellowship.





# Upcoming May 6

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR NOC

# Women's Night Out

HOPMONK TAVERN  
NOVATO

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SATURDAY, MAY 6  
7 PM

RSVP TO BESSIE MITSKARIS  
BESSALAI2@YAHOO.COM  
BY 5/1 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT



NATIVITY OF CHRIST  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
✦ faith ✦ love ✦ community ✦

# GOLF OUTING

Rooster Run Golf Club  
Petaluma

**SATURDAY MAY 6 || 7:30 AM SHOTGUN  
SCRAMBLE FORMAT**

RSVP by 4/19 as a foursome or individual golfer  
to John Stockton (707.631.2480) via text  
\$85 per golfer (cart, awards, and prizes included!)





# Parish Updates

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## New Water Bottle Filling Station

Through the generosity of Cathy Selmi, Roman's Plumbing, and Antonis Construction, a new water bottle filling station was purchased and installed in our Fellowship Hall. We're grateful that many will certainly benefit from this wonderful addition.

## *Scholarship Opportunity*

Attention all high school graduate and continuing college students! Don't miss out on the opportunity to apply for one of three - \$1,000 academic gifts from the Nativity of Christ Philoptochos.



### **The deadline to apply is Sunday, May 7.**

Students must carry at least 12 units (8 units for graduate students). The application with grade and transcript requirements, as well as the written narrative and character reference instructions, are available in hard copy at the Church Office or by email request to Susan Stockton [22pies@att.net](mailto:22pies@att.net).

The application, with all supporting documentation, must be submitted by May 7.

**Recipients will be announced on Sunday, May 14.**

## *Greek Experience Ministry*

Greek school is coming to an end for the year 2022-2023. The last day of school is May 25, 2023. We had a wonderful year with a diverse group of students in age, skill level and cultural backgrounds. We look forward to starting Greek school back up in mid-August for the year 2023-2024. Enrollment will be available the first two weeks of August. If you need more information about the classes and schedules we will be offering, do not hesitate to contact Eirini Karatzaferi or Chrissy Zotalis at [greekschool@nativityofchrist.org](mailto:greekschool@nativityofchrist.org).



# May 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!



## May 2: St. Zoe

Zoe Zaphiris Fisher

## May 5: St. Irene

Eirini Karatzaferi

Irene Meehan

Irene Sandoval

Erene Sotiras

Irene Starling

## May 9: St. Christopher

Chris Chyrklund

Christopher England

Gary Fisher

Christopher Hillman

Chris Hontalas

Christopher Madias

Christopher Rizzuti

Chris Webber

Christopher Yatrakis

## May 11: Sts. Methodios & Cyril

Argyris Galanakis

Olympia Katelanis

## May 12: St. Theodore's

Theodore Rouman

## May 15: St. Daphne

Daphne Cummings

Daphne Russell

## May 18: St. Julian

Julia Degaitis

## May 21: Sts. Constantine &

### Helen

Eleni Antonis

Elaine Bertolina

Gus Boosalis

Constance Camamis

Connie Captanian

Elaine Chyrklund

Gus Constantin

Elaine Cunningham

Diana Demetrulias

Connor Efstathiou

Constantine Efstathiou

Diane Fafoutis

Helen Farmer

Robert Constantino Fisher

Diane Flohr

Costas Foster

Charles Gagas

Nikki Griffith

Kostas Grigorakis

Constantine Haralambopoulos

Costa Haris

Helen Harris

Elaine Harvey

Constance Hillman

Kassiani Jouganatos

Eleni Karas

Dean Karnazes

Eleni Katelanis

Diane Kavantjas

Eleni Kelley

Elaine Keratzides

Lena Kokalis

Constantine Madias

Constantine Mavromihalis

Diane Panagotacos

Jason Panagotacos

Elaine Passaris

Eleni Rose Passaris

Dean Pogni

Eleni Sophia Psaros

Helen Psaros

Elena Reutovski

Dina Ron

Liz Rouman

Eleni Scanagatta

Helen Selmi

Constantin Serafimescu

Helen Soldatos

Alena Katherine Starling

Dean Stathis

Dina Stathis

Dina Varvitsiotes

Francesca Vratos

Karen Walters

Dean Yioulos

## May 26: St. Alexandros

Alex Cunningham




# 2023 Stewardship Pledges (as of April 14, 2023)

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Presiding Priest Fr. John & Pres. Stephanie Kocolas	Fisher, Gary & Alex Zaphiris Flohr, Dave & Diane Fotinos, Vivian Fourakis, Vasilis & Effie Franklin, Alexandra Friedman, Peter & Katina Pantzes Fuss, Patrick Gagas, Charles & Claire Gavallos, Victor & Brenda George, Pete & Ann Geron, Diana Gikkas, Pete & Vickie Hatos Gikkas, Stephanie Haginicols, Amalia Hajopoulos, Kathy Hall, Bryan & Paula Plessas-Hall Hamill, John & Athanasia Hanacek, Nick & Victoria Hanis, Jim & Stella Haralambopoulos, Costas & Ria Haris, George & Georgia Haris, Nico & Nicole Haritoudas, Stamatia Harris, Helen Harvey, Robert & Elaine Hontalas, Chris & Susan Hontalas, Frank & Eve Hundley, Courtney & Marilyn Hunter, John & Rose Iannios, Demetrios & Manulani Kakleas, Jon Kalabokes, Chris Kamages, Christ & Pat Kambur, JoAnne Kanas, Nick &Carolynn Karaszi, Noula Katelanis, Olympia Kavantjas, Diane Kavouklis, Chris & Tonia Birmpakou Keller, Ed & Karen Kelley, Stephen & Eleni Kokalis, George & Debbie Kosmas, Anthony & Anthonia Kozas, Anna Kozas, Tom & Angero Kozas, Nonda & Nicole Kuvelis, Dean & Denise Kuvelis, Xenia Lagios, Michael & Sheila Lendaris, Antonia Lendaris, George Li, Robert & Stephanie Pappas Livadas, Carl & Stacy Livanos, Nick & Patti	Lourdes, Vasiliki Lucas, Matt & Fei Lynn, Tom & Lucy Madias, Alexander & Robyn Madias, Evangelia Madias, Joanna Manesis, Alexandra Mantalvanos, Alex & Maria Manos, Michele Margaronis, Anastassios & Maya Marshall, Philip & Kathy Mavromihalis, Steven & Vickie Mayer, Paul & Diana Demetrulias Medan, Dushan & Gigi Meehan, Nicole Meehan, Tom & Irene Meek, Gerald & Stamatina Meek, Jason Meredith, Kent & Angela Koros Messner, Mark & Cheryl Metallinos, Sophia Misthos, Eileen Morales, Marlon & Andrea Morris, Susan Morrisey, Lloyd & Anastasia Pinoris O'Connor Wayne & Betty Zootis Oetzel, Bob & Pauline Orologas, Julie Orologas, Katerina Pajcini, Marlen & Valentina Papageorge, Christos & Despina Panagotacos, James & Diane Papanikolaou, George & Soula Papanikolaou, Marina Papedo, Janice Passaris, Michael & Meredith Passaris, Theodore & Elaine Pauletti, Jeff & Alexandra Pederson, Daniela Perivolaris, Nick Perivolaris, Sara Petrapoulos, Thelma Petrakis, Steve Picras, Beatrice Pineda, Andy & Matina Seremetis Porter, Bryan & Melina Psaros, Stamatis & Helen Rishwain, Darron & Pamela Roland, George & Doris Ross, Sylvia Rouman, Steve & Liz Saldana, Mario & Jennifer	Sandoval, Irene Sarantakis, George & Susan Jensen Saris, Tony & Betty Scanagatta, Roman & Eleni Selmi, Catherine Selmi, Helen Sideris, Stassie Simon, Kay Slenkin, Alex & Nancy Smith, Evdokia Smyrni, Anna Soeten, Alexandra Sotiras, Erene Sotiras, George Sotiras, Maria Sotiras, Fr. Pete & Angie Squires, Michael & Johanna Starling, Eric & Irene Stathis, Pete & Dina Stathis, Sophia Stavrinides, Nicholas Stavrinides, Thalia Stenros, Stuart & Stella Stockton, John & Susan Stratigos, Spiro & Mary Kay Tacticos, George Tangalakis, Odysseus & Joanna Tarazi, Alex & Carla Thomatos, Dennis & Christina Touras, Antonios & Antonia Trevoledes, Patrice Tzafopoulos, Vasiliki Tzagarakis, Martina Vallas, James & Judith Vasilopoulos, Nick & Eileen Gordon Vassiliou, Maggie Vlahakos, Nick & Georgia Walters, Amalia Walters, Scott & Karen Weeks, Dan & Stacey Weipking, Ruari & Alexandra Kremer Wildermuth, Anna Yakumithis, Michael & Marika Yioulos, Dean & Ann Zaferiou, Paul & Phyllis Zahariudakis, Dimitrios & Haroula
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# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>7</b> <b>The Paralytic</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Sunday School</i> <i>New Member Welcome Lunch</i> <i>Philoptochos Elections</i> GEM 12:15-1:15 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Bible Study 9 am GEM - Zoom 4:30 - 5:30 pm Parish Council 7 pm	<b>10</b> GEM - Zoom 5:30 - 6:30 pm Minoans Dance Practices  Fast Day	<b>11</b> GEM - Zoom 6 - 7pm Open Gym 7 pm	<b>12</b> Sack Meals 9:30 am GEM 4-5 pm  Fast Day	<b>13</b> Metropolis Oratorical Festival
<b>14</b> <b>The Samaritan Woman</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Mother's Day</i> GEM 12:15-1:15 pm	<b>15</b> Festival Baking: Kourabethes 9 am	<b>16</b> Bible Study 9 am GEM - Zoom 4:30 - 5:30 pm	<b>17</b> GEM - Zoom 5:30 - 6:30 pm Minoans Dance Practices Journey to Fullness 7:30 pm	<b>18</b> GEM - Zoom 6 - 7pm Sons of Nativity 7 pm Open Gym 8 pm	<b>19</b> Festival Baking: Baklava 9 am GEM 4-5 pm  Fast Day	<b>20</b> Festival Set Up Great Vespers Vallejo
<b>21</b> <b>The Blind Man</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Promotion Sunday GEM 12:15-1:15 pm Sts. Constantine and Helen	<b>22</b> Festival Preparations	<b>23</b> Bible Study 9 am Festival Preparations	<b>24</b> Minoans Dance Practices Festival Set Up Evening Great Vespers Oakland  Fast Day	<b>25</b> Divine Services- 8:30 am Holy Ascension Festival Set Up	<b>26</b> Marin Greek Festival 5 pm-9 pm  Fast Day	<b>27</b> Marin Greek Festival 11 am-9 pm 
<b>28</b> <b>Fathers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Council</b> Orthros 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Marin Greek Festival 11 am-9 pm	<b>29</b> Memorial Day Festival Clean Up Office Closed	<b>30</b> Bible Study 9 am	<b>31</b> Fast Day	<b>June 1</b> Word Mailing Day 1 pm	<b>2</b> Fast Day	<b>3</b> Divine Services- 8:30 am Saturday of Souls





Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church  
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[www.nativityofchrist.org](http://www.nativityofchrist.org)

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THE WORD

May 2023

WE'RE BACK  
 WITH ONE OF  
 MARIN COUNTY'S  
 MOST BELOVED EVENTS!  
 JOIN US ON  
 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND,  
 AS WE CELEBRATE  
 50 PLUS YEARS  
 SINCE OUR FIRST  
 MARIN GREEK FESTIVAL  
 IN 1972!



[nativityofchrist.org](http://nativityofchrist.org)

A percentage of proceeds to benefit



**MARIN GREEK FESTIVAL 2023**  
**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

GREEK CUISINE  
 CULTURE  
 MUSIC  
 DANCE  
 FAITH  
 FELLOWSHIP  
 & FUN

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

**VISIT OUR GREEK VILLAGE ON THE HILL**  
 &  
**ENJOY THE GREEK WORLD AMBIANCE**

**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
 FRIDAY, MAY 26TH, 5 PM TO 9 PM  
 SATURDAY, MAY 27TH & SUNDAY, MAY 28TH  
 11 AM TO 9 PM

**DANCE**

TO THE MUSIC OF  
 THE KYMATA BAND  
 ALL WEEKEND

**ENJOY**

GREEK WINES &  
 AUTHENTIC GREEK DELICACIES  
 FEATURED ALL WEEKEND

**LISTEN**

TO RENOWNED SPEAKERS

**LEARN**

ABOUT GREEK HISTORY,  
 MUSIC, DANCE & FAITH

**Directions:**

From Highway 101,  
 take Ignacio Boulevard exit  
 heading west.  
 Follow signs to free parking\*  
 at Pell Plaza,  
**500 Redwood Blvd,**  
 where a shuttle will take  
 you to the festival.

[maringreekfestival.org](http://maringreekfestival.org)

