

# The Word

May 2026



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

## **All Things New in the Resurrection, by Father Stanley S. Harakas**

The Resurrection of Christ is the one of the most important and central aspects of our Orthodox Christian faith.

In three of the Gospels, an event is described in which Jesus Himself was challenged by the leading Sadducees, who rejected belief in the resurrection. Jesus countered their denials with an affirmation of resurrection (Mark 12:18-27); Matthew 22:23-33; Luke 20:27-40), saying “You are quite wrong!” (Mark 12:27).

In John 5:29 Christ taught that “those who have done good, (will come) to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. Elsewhere He declared, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live” (John 11:25).

So, on the third day after His Crucifixion and death, Jesus Himself became the victor over death, sin, evil and the Devil, by conquering death through His Resurrection. The biblical words are still powerful and striking: “He is

not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you” (Matthew 28:6-7). It was the first sermon of the Church –“He has risen from the dead!”

Later, when Judas had to be replaced among the Twelve Apostles, one of the conditions of his replacement was that the candidate “must become with us a witness to His resurrection” (Acts 1:22). At Pentecost, St. Peter proclaimed the Resurrection of Christ: “This Jesus, God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses” (Acts 2:32). The Apostles began their preaching by “proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead” (Acts 4:2). We learn that the preaching on the central importance of Christ’s Resurrection continued in the Church: “With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:33).

In Saint Paul’s apostolic ministry, the Resurrection of Christ was central. In describing his message to

the Christians in Rome, of greatest significance was his preaching of Christ, who was the “Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 1:4).

So it is, that St. Peter declared this core affirmation of the Christian faith when he wrote “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

In our Orthodox Church, the Resurrection of Christ is central, especially in worship. Every Sunday is a little Pascha, commemorating Christ’s Resurrection. At Pascha, we read St. John Chrysostom’s Easter Sermon where it is proclaimed, “O death, where is your sting? O Hades where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are annihilated... Christ is risen, and life is liberated ... for Christ having risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who fall asleep.”

Brothers and sisters! Christ is Risen!  
Truly, He is Risen!

# May Services

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All services will be streamed.  
[Stream Services Here](#)

May Services		
Date	Service	Time
Sunday, May 3	The Paralytic	8:30 am
Sunday, May 10	The Samaritan Woman	8:30 am
Sunday, May 17	The Blind Man	8:30 am
Thursday, May 21	Holy Ascension	8:30 am
Sunday, May 24	1st Ecumenical Council	8:30 am
Sunday, May 31	Holy Pentecost	8:30 am

## Holy Ascension

The Lord Jesus passed forty days on earth after His Resurrection from the dead, appearing continually in various places to His disciples, with whom He also spoke, ate, and drank, thereby further demonstrating His Resurrection. On this Thursday, the fortieth day after Pascha, He appeared again in Jerusalem. After He had first spoken to the disciples about many things, He gave them His last commandment, that is, that they go forth and proclaim His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. But He also commanded them that for the present, they were not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait there together until they receive power from on high, when the Holy Spirit would come upon them.

Saying these things, He led them to the Mount of Olives, and raising His hands, He blessed them; and saying again the words of the Father's blessing, He was parted from them and taken up. Immediately a cloud of light, a proof of His majesty, received Him. Sitting thereon as though on a royal chariot, He was taken up into Heaven, and after a short time was concealed from the sight of the disciples, who remained where they were with their eyes fixed on Him. At this point,



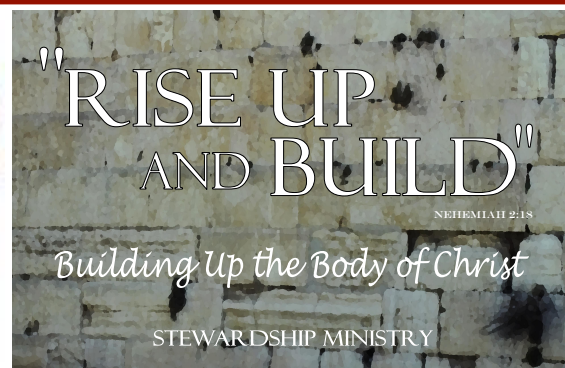
two Angels in the form of men in white raiment appeared to them and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus, Who is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven" (Acts 1:11). These words, in a complete and concise manner, declare what is taught in the Symbol of Faith concerning the Son and Word of God. Therefore, having so fulfilled all His dispensation for us, our Lord Jesus Christ ascended in glory into Heaven, and sat at the right hand of God the Father. As for His sacred disciples, they returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem, rejoicing because Christ had promised to send them the Holy Spirit.

It should be noted that the Mount of Olives is a Sabbath's day journey from Jerusalem, that is, the distance a Jew was permitted to walk on the day of the Sabbath. Ecumenius writes, "A Sabbath day's journey is one mile in length, as Clement says in his fifth Stromatis; it is two thousand cubits, as the Interpretation of the Acts states." They draw this conclusion from the fact that, while they were in the wilderness, the Israelites of old kept within this distance from the Holy Tabernacle, whither they walked on the Sabbath day to worship God.

## Stewardship

The month of May is often associated with Mother's Day—a time to honor mothers and mother figures. In the midst of busy schedules, we may not always make the time to be with them, while we can. Others of us carry the weight of loss and would welcome the chance to speak with our mothers once more—to hear their voice and receive their guidance.

Many also remember the generosity our mothers showed to those around them. I often think of stories from my family: my grandmother, in a Greek village, sharing what little food she had with neighbors who were hungry, and my mother faithfully giving to those in need. Scripture affirms this spirit of sacrificial generosity. Jesus recognized a woman, the widow who gave “two mites,” offering all she had in Mark 12:42-44. Many of us can recall similar examples of our mothers who generously gave in faith, even when resources seemed limited. The Proverbs 31 woman is described in this way: “She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.” (Prov. 31:20) As we honor our mothers and their generosity, let us consider their example and give what we can through stewardship.



## Flower Donations

Thank you to those who donated towards our flowers for Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha.

**John and Rose Hunter**  
**George and Debbie Kokalis**  
**George Lendaris**  
**Stassie Sideris**  
**Kay Simon**  
**Evdokia Smith**  
**John and Susan Stockton**



## Sons & Ladies

### Night

On Thursday, April 23, Eleni and Roman Scanagatta hosted a spectacular evening to celebrate the feast of St. George. Having built a small chapel on their property dedicated to the saint, parishioners enjoyed a memorable evening. Thank you Eleni and Roman for your hospitality!



# BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

## NEXT STEPS

# SUNDAY, MAY 3

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



Join us as our Orthodox  
capital campaign consultant,  
Jerry Minetos, presents the

results of Nativity's Building On Our Faith  
Planning Study. The Steering Committee  
will then reveal the next steps, shaped by your  
voices and vision for the future.



# Philoptochos

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## Philoptochos Meeting

Did you know that Cinco de Mayo falls on a Tuesday? That means you can come to the meeting on May 5 and celebrate on the weekend! Best of both worlds! Our last meeting before the summer break is Tuesday, May 5 at 7pm in the church conference room. **All are welcome!** If you can, please meet us at 5:30 at Panera, Vintage Oaks to enjoy the camaraderie. For those of you who cannot attend in person, here is the Zoom link to the meeting:

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83158313960?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83158313960?pwd=V0xTM0xEV3RMaFNZbGJ3Oy9CbNFIQT09)

[pwd=V0xTM0xEV3RMaFNZbGJ3Oy9CbNFIQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83158313960?pwd=V0xTM0xEV3RMaFNZbGJ3Oy9CbNFIQT09)

Meeting ID: 831 5831 3960 Passcode: phil

## Membership

We need YOU to renew or join Philoptochos! We are only successful when you are involved with your time, treasure or talent. All Orthodox (or married to an Orthodox) women and men over 18 are welcome. **Please join and support our many charities!** Any questions, please call or text Susan Stockton at 707-365-8184.

## Fellowship Hour

We are reaching out to request assistance with our upcoming Summer Fellowship Hour. As we currently have no groups assigned for the summer months, we are looking for volunteers to help maintain this tradition. Our goal is to keep these summer sessions low-key and manageable. Hosting simply involves providing a platter of fruit and a platter of pastries. You would be responsible for making the coffee and setting the items on the table. To keep the process straightforward, janitorial staff will handle the cleanup, so you do not need to stay until the end. Additionally, anyone attending is welcome to bring an item to share. Please let me know if you are available to host on any of the upcoming dates. The first Sunday will be May 31. Many hands

make for light work! Irene Meehan 415-497-7674.

## Academic Gifts

Every year Philoptochos sponsors academic gifts to high school graduates and continuing college students. **The deadline to apply is Sunday, May 31.** Students must carry at least 12 units. 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). Recipients will be announced on Sunday, June 7.

## Coming Up

Our annual June get-together! Come to the May 5 meeting and help us pick a date!



The flyer features a background image of coffee and pastries. In the top left, there is a cup of coffee with a heart-shaped latte art. In the top right, a speech bubble contains the text: "Email Irene Meehan if you are not already on a Fellowship Hour Team. imeehan715@gmail.com". The main title "Sign Up For A Fellowship Hour Team" is centered, with "Fellowship" in a large, elegant script font. Below the title is a bulleted list of details: "Fellowship teams include 4-5 individuals", "Each team participates twice per year", "Teams bring two food items to share", "Teams help set up the coffee table & lay the food out for parishioners.", and "After fellowship hour, teams clear the coffee table and the food tables." At the bottom, it says "Our Fellowship Hour thrives on shared participation. Be part of a group and help make it happen!" and shows a close-up of a croissant.

Email Irene Meehan if you are not already on a Fellowship Hour Team.  
imeehan715@gmail.com

Sign Up For A  
**Fellowship**  
Hour Team

- Fellowship teams include 4-5 individuals.
- Each team participates twice per year.
- Teams bring two food items to share.
- Teams help set up the coffee table & lay the food out for parishioners.
- After fellowship hour, teams clear the coffee table and the food tables.

Our Fellowship Hour thrives on shared participation.  
Be part of a group and help make it happen!

# Sunday School

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**Sunday Class Meetings Dates:** May 3, 10

## May 17 – Promotion Sunday

### A Special Celebration for Our Students

This is a very important and special day! For the culmination of our Sunday School year, students will share a presentation with the congregation.

Please RSVP for May 17 by emailing [sundayschool@nativityofchrist.org](mailto:sundayschool@nativityofchrist.org) so that your teachers can ensure your child is included, prepared, and recognized.

## Summer Blessings

The Sunday School teachers wish you and your families a beautiful and blessed summer. As you travel, we encourage you to visit Orthodox parishes along the way—it is a wonderful way to experience the beauty and diversity of our faith. Missing class this summer? Check out this content for continuing to learn about our faith!

<https://www.goarch.org/chapel>

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives>

<https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/letusattend/>

<https://orthodoxpebbles.com/>

Above all, don't forget Christ—He never forgets us.

## Sunday School Registration for 2026–2027

Be sure to register your child(ren) online using this [link](#) or visiting the Education page on our website now. Early registration helps our teachers plan over the summer for their classes.

## Save the Dates:

### August 16 Panagia Picnic & Registration

For new families or those who have not yet registered—look for the registration table!

### Welcome back on our First Day of Sunday School - August 23, 2026!

We are excited and blessed to have you with us as we look forward to the 2026–2027 Ecclesiastical Year.

Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful summer!



The poster features the Philoptochos logo at the top, which includes a cross and the text "PHILOPTOCHOS" and "ΠΡΟΒΛΕΨΕΤΕ ΤΟ ΜΕΛΛΟΝ ΤΕΛΕΤΕ ΤΟ ΠΑΡΟΝ". Below the logo, the text reads "ACADEMIC GIFT PROGRAM 2026". The main body of text says: "Calling all high school graduates and full time college students! Don't miss out on the opportunity to apply for one of the \$1,000 academic gifts from the Nativity of Christ Philoptochos. The application with grade and transcript requirements, as well as the written narrative and character reference instructions are available from the Church Office or by email request to Susan Stockton at 22pies@att.net. Must be undergraduate students with at least 12 units to apply. Recipients will be announced on Sunday, June 7th." At the bottom, there is a red button that says "APPLICATION DEADLINE" and a white button that says "Sunday May 31, 2026".



## April Sack Meals

Tuesday, April 20, parishioners gathered again to prepare sack meals for St. Vincent de Paul. Join us on May 29 for our next sack meals morning at 9 am.

# Highlights

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## Parish Oratorical Festival

Sunday, March 29, the faithful were inspired and illuminated through presentations from five of our middle school and high schoolers. We congratulate Sophia Passaris, Katia Antonis, Eleni Passaris, Thalia Morales, and Talos Morales for expressing their faith so beautifully.



## Bay Area St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

On Sunday, April 19, Eleni Passaris represented Nativity of Christ at the Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont for the Bay Area St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival. After another inspiring presentation, Eleni was awarded as a Finalist! She will be traveling to St. Nicholas Ranch in Dunlap, CA to represent the Bay Area on Saturday, May 9. Congratulations Eleni!

## VIPs

After the Divine Liturgy for St. George the Great Martyr, our VIPs gathering for fellowship and wished George Tacticos a blessed nameday. Many years to all the George and Georgias of our Parish!



## Recent Minoans' Activities

Scenes from our Greek Consulate performance for Greek Independence Day at the Green Room, San Francisco War Memorial.



# Great Friday

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## Kouvouklion Decorating

On Great Friday we gathered to decorate our beautiful Kouvouklion. Led by Nicole Meehan who created the top corners. Sophia Stathis and Katina Orologas created the stunning base. Evi Smith and Floretta Burrows lent their talents to the crown. Nia Kosmas and Stassie Sideris applied their artistry to the top centers and inside corners. Karen Keller created the delicate jasmine garland. Special thanks to our helpers Ed Keller, Pat Kamages and Guy Doers.



## Great Friday Retreat

Our Ministries Director, Eleni Kelley, lead another meaningful retreat for our youth. After discussion with Fr. John and helping decorate the kouvouklion, the children made their own Agape candles to anticipate the light of the Resurrection. While Fr. John was reviewing instructions with the acolytes, the younger children also participated in a birdhouse craft to represent the empty tomb of Christ. The retreat concluded with Eleni urging families to reflect on what the empty tomb means to us and how we can share the light of Christ with others.



## Pascal Meal

Our Parish Council President, Nonda Kozas, lead an effort to make traditional “margaritsa” soup for all those in attendance at the end of the Resurrection Liturgy. Special thanks to Angie Kozas and Kay Simon for assisting in the delicious meal to celebrate our Lord’s Resurrection.



# Holy Week Services

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## Holy Week

It was another sacred and blessed commemoration of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection. On Holy Wednesday, Nativity welcomed His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos for the Holy Unction service as well as Matins for Holy Thursday. Our Parish continues to be blessed with the presence and prayers of Fr. Constantine Efstathiou, the dedication of our chanter, Karim El-Far, and the assistance in the altar by George Sotiras. Through the additional help of readers, acolytes, and members of our choir, Holy Week continues to be a memorable and special experience for all of our stewards. Christ is Risen!



# Upcoming Opportunities

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NOC LADIES

## Join the Fun with Line Dance

Easy Steps • Great Music • Good Vibes



Whether you're a beginner or just love to move, our line dance class is for everyone!

• • • • •

📅 **May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

🕒 **6:00 - 7:00pm**

• • • • •

HOSTED BY ANDY CROWLEY +++ NOC BACK PATIO



## Jonathan's Place VOLUNTEERS

MARCH 29, MAY 31, AUGUST 30 AND NOVEMBER 29

**ANY # OF VOLUNTEERS WELCOME FOR FOOD PREP**  
☑️ 2:30 pm, Church Kitchen, for meal preparation (~2 hours)

**2-3 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SERVING**  
☑️ 5:00 pm, Jonathan's Place, San Rafael, for meal serving (~1.5 - 2 hours)

**CONTACT** Gigi Pappas Medan  
gandd2@comcast.net



## IT'S MAY LET'S PLAY!

SUNDAY FUNDAY

### MAY 3

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

**JOIN US FOR SUN & FUN ON THE BACK PATIO!**



# JOY

Waterfall Hike  
Saturday, May 16th at 3pm  
Meeting Location will be 611 Fairway Drive, Novato

Strap on your walking shoes and join for JOY's hike to Buck Gulch Falls. Children will enjoy and reflect on the beauty of God's creation.

JOY is a ministry for elementary school age children (pref. - 6th grade)

# Bishop Demetrios Book Signing

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## Meet the Author. Experience the Story.

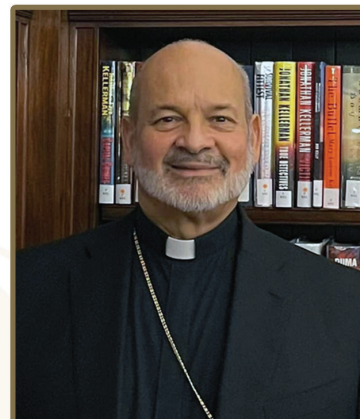
### An Evening with Bishop Demetrios:

AUTHOR OF

### GRACE UNBOUND

*The Sacred Activism of  
an Orthodox Bishop*

Interview | Meet & Greet



## THURSDAY, MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>

6:00 PM – Gathering and reception

7:00 PM – Interview

8:00–9:00 PM – Meet and greet

Venue:



**NATIVITY OF CHRIST**  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1110 Highland Drive,  
Novato, CA 94949  
(415) 883-1998



**Interlocutor:**

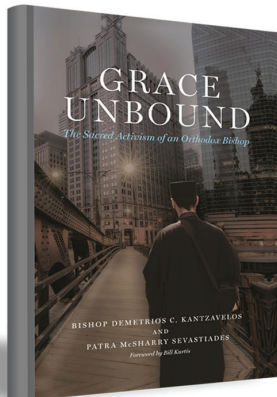
**Anna Kagarakis** — award-winning  
journalist, writer, podcast host, and  
voiceover artist

*There is no charge for this event.*

**REGISTER HERE**

[tinyurl.com/BishopDemetriosMay14](https://tinyurl.com/BishopDemetriosMay14)

Copies of *Grace Unbound* will be available for purchase and signing. All are welcome to attend this engaging conversation on faith, leadership, and social witness.



### About the Book

Published by Rowman & Littlefield, an imprint of Bloomsbury (2025), and co-authored with Patra Sevastiades, *Grace Unbound: The Sacred Activism of an Orthodox Bishop* explores the life and ministry of Bishop Demetrios (Kantzavelos) of Mokissos, offering a powerful narrative of faith in action, moral courage, and advocacy for justice in the modern world.



# Upcoming Events

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*Welcome*  
TO THE  
**ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
AN INTRODUCTION TO  
Eastern Christianity

A Book Discussion  
Series with Fr. John  
Wednesday,  
May 13 and 27  
7:30 pm on Zoom

Frederica  
Mathewes-Green

## SACK MEAL PROJECT

FOR THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S FREE DINING ROOM

### WHEN

Friday,  
May 29

### WHERE

9-11AM NOC  
Kitchen

### VOLUNTEERS

4 Volunteers for  
Sandwich Making

### NEEDED

4 Volunteers for  
the Assembly Line

### SIGN UP HERE



### CONTACT

Elaine Chyrklund at  
elainechyrklund@gmail.com  
or Mary Kay Stratigos at  
mkstrato@gmail.com



*Help prepare 150 sack meals for the needy in our community. If you are unable to volunteer, monetary donations are welcome. Cash or check payable to Nativity of Christ. Memo: Sack Meal*

## GREEK SCHOOL END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Wednesday May 13th, 2026  
4:45pm on the Church Patio

Celebrate the end of the  
Greek School year with dinner,  
fire pit smores & games.

## POP-UP GYRO FEST

**MAY 2 & MAY 3  
11 AM TO 7 PM**

NOW OFFERING DRIVE-THROUGH  
& PATIO SEATING

PLACE YOUR ORDER

*On the Spot*  
NATIVITY OF CHRIST  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1110 HIGHLAND DRIVE  
NOVATO, CA 94949

*Or Online*  
NATIVITYOFCHRIST.ORG/  
GYRO-FEST-TO-GO

**\$14** (Gyro)

**\$7** (Fries)

**\$4** (Pie)

**\$4** (Drinks)

**\$3** (Bottle)

BOTTLED WATER AVAILABLE FOR \$1

SCAN ME!

*Traditional & Authentic Every Time*

# 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. If you need a list of chairs, please reach out to Irene Meehan, Volunteer Chair.

## Community Service Hours

Please contact Anna Kozas, our newest member of the Steering Committee, if your school requires community service hours. We have many tasks available for students.

## Food Prep - Upcoming Food Prep Dates

Please check Monday Ministry Update emails for upcoming food prep dates. Please contact Ed Keller (415-320-9134) to assist with marinating the chicken and Bill Capetanos (707-318-6585) to assist with skewering the souvlaki.

## Set Up Dates

We need many hands to assist with setup. Please check Monday Ministry emails for dates/times. All booths need to be set up and ready for when the 2026 Festival opens at **5:00 pm on Friday, May 22!** We would like the booth chairs to be there during the set up of their booth in order to make sure that all is in order.

## Free Admission Postcards

Free admission postcards will be available during Fellowship Hours. Please take some to distribute at work, to neighbors, friends and relatives.

**It takes a Village & ours is incredible!**



## Festival Baking

**Volunteers Needed**

Please stop by anytime. Even an hour helps!  
No experience needed.

Contact Matina at 415-297-7501  
or MatinaSeremetis@gmail.com

- Monday, May 18 - 9AM - Kourabiedes

SONOMA-MARIN  
**SMART**  
AREA RAIL TRANSIT

**Ride SMART to  
the Marin Greek Festival**

Free connecting shuttle via the Hamilton Station

**MAY 22 - 24, 2026**

Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church 1110 Highland Drive, Novato, 94949

# 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 3: St. Mavra**

Chelsea Maura Hanos

## **May 5: St. Irene**

Eirini Karatzaferi

Irene Meehan

Irene Sandoval

Erene Sotiras

Irene Starling

## **May 7: St. Mark**

Marko Perivolaris

## **May 9: St. Christopher**

Chris Chyrklund

Christopher England

Gary Fisher

Christopher Madias

Christopher Rizzuti

Chris Webber

Christopher Yatrakis

## **May 11: Sts. Methodios & Cyril**

Argyris Galanakis

Olympia Katelanis

## **May 12: St. Theodore**

Theodore Rouman

## **May 15: St. Pachomios**

Daphne Russell

## **May 18: St. Julian**

Julia Degaitis

## **May 19: St. Patrick**

Patricia Kamages

## **May 21: Sts. Constantine &**

### **Helen**

Eleni Antonis

Elaine Bertolina

Gus Boosalis

Constance Camamis

Connie Captanian

Wyatt Konstantine Captanian

Elaine Chyrklund

Gus Constantin

Elaine Cunningham

Diana Demetrulias

Connor Efstathiou

Constantine Efstathiou

Diane Fafoutis

Helen Farmer

Robert Constantino Fisher

Costas Foster

Charles Gagas

Connie Grey

Kostas Grigorakis

Constantine Haralambopoulos

Constantine Haris

Costa Haris

Helen Harris

Elaine Harvey

Dean Karnazes

Eleni Katelanis

Diane Kavantjas

Eleni Kelley

Elaine Keratzides

Lena Kokalis

Maximilian Lucas

Constantine Madias

Constantine Mavromihalis

Diane Panagotacos

Jason Panagotacos

Elaine Passaris

Eleni Rose Passaris

Constantine George

Petracopoulos

Dean Pogni

Eleni Sophia Psaros

Helen Psaros

Liz Rouman

Eleni Scanagatta

Helen Selmi

Helen Soldatos

Alena Katherine Starling

Dean Stathis

Dina Stathis

Dina Varvitsiotes

Francesca Vratos

Karen Walters

Dean Yioulos

Constantina Zachariou

## **May 26: St. Alexandros**

Alex Cunningham

## **May 29: St. Theodosia**

Olivia Teter

## Word Mailing Team


Join us this month as we fold and label the June Word newsletters. This month we are gathering Thursday, May 28, at 10 am at Church. Questions? Email the Church Office: [office@nativityofchrist.org](mailto:office@nativityofchrist.org)

# 2026 Stewardship Pledges (as of April 23, 2026)

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Presiding Priest Fr. John & Pres. Stephanie Kocolas	Friedman, Peter & Katina Pantazes Fuss, Patrick Gagas, Charles & Claire Garton, Elena Gatzios, Yiannis & Catherine Gavallos, Dennis Gavallos, Victor D. Gavallos, Victor G. & Brenda George, Ann Georgeson, George & Deborah Geron, Diana Gikkas, Pete & Vickie Hatos Gikkas, Stephanie Gunder, Nicholas & Sidsel Haginicols, Amalia Hajopoulos, Kathy Hall, Bryan & Paula Plessas- Hall	Lynn, Tom & Lucille Picras- Lynn Madias, Alexander & Robyn Madias, Constantine & Marti Madias, Michael & Laurie Madias, Theodore Manesis, Alexandria Manos, Michele Marshall, Philip & Kathy Mavromihalis, Steve & Vickie Mayer, Jordan Mayer, Paul & Diana Demetruilas Medan, Dushan & Gigi Meehan, Nicole Meehan, Tom & Irene Mehas, Christine Misthos, Eileen Morris, Susan Morrisssey, Lloyd & Anastasia Pinoris O'Connor, Wayne & Betty Zootis Orologas, Julie Orologas, Katerina Panagotacos, James & Diane Papanikolaou, George & Soula Papanikolaou, Marina Pappas, Evanthia Passaris, Michael & Meredith Pauletto, Jeff & Alexandra Pederson, Daniela Perivolaris, Nick Perivolaris, Sara Petracopoulos, Thelma Pineda, Andy & Matina Seremetis Pogni, Dean & Georgina Powers, Bill & Kiki Taft Psaros, Nick & Angi Psaros, Stamatis & Eleni Rodriguez, Ricardo & Demetra Vangelatos Roland, George & Doris Rouman, Steve & Liz Ruffcorn, Oren & Joanna Sandoval, Irene Sarantinos, Alexis Scanagatta, Marina Scanagatta, Roman & Eleni Scanagatta, Valentina Sellas, Olga Selmi, Cathy Selmi, Helen Sideris, Stassie Siefkas, Chris & Susan Silverberg, Johnathan & Christina Simon, Kay Smith, Evdokia Smyrni, Anna Soeten, Alexandra Sotiras, Erene Sotiras, George Sotiras, Maria Spiliotis, Maria	Starling, Eric & Irene Starling, James Stathis, Pete & Dina Stathis, Sophia Stavrinides, Nicholas Stavrinides, Thalia Stenos, Stuart & Stella Stockton, John & Susan Stratigos, Nikolas Stratigos, Sophia Stratigos, Spiro & Mary Kay Szyrnski, Gabriel & Jenny Walters Tacticos, George Tarazi, Alex & Carla Touras, Anthony & Antonia Trapalis, Niovi Triantafyllos, John & Laura Tsapakis, Geoge & Maria-Alexandra Tzafopoulos, Vasiliki Valakitsis, Yianni & Eugenia Dracopolous Vallas, James & Judith Vasilopoulos, Nick & Eileen Gordon Vlachos, Anthoula Vlachos, Spirodon & Argyro Petsakos-Vlachos Vlachos, Yiannoula Vlahakos, Nick & Georgia Walters, Scott & Karen Weeks, Dan & Stacey Wiepking, Ruairi, & Alexandra Kremer Yakumithis, Michael & Marika Zaccardelli, Dennis & Kathryn Zachariou, Michael & Constantina Zahariudakis, Dimitrios & Charoula
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# May 2026

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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						Fast Day	11 am - 7 pm Gyro Feast
<b>3</b>	<b>The Paralytic</b> Orthos 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Sunday School Sunday Funday Joy, Metrics Presentation 11 am - 7 pm Gyro Feast	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Philopochos Meeting 7 pm	<b>6</b> CEM Classes Minoans Dance Practice  <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>7</b> NOC Ladies at 6 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>The Samaritan Woman</b> Orthos 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Sunday School Mother's Day	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Bible Study 9 am. Parish Council 7 pm	<b>13</b> CEM Classes Minoans Dance Practice Welcome to Orthodoxy 7:30 pm  <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>14</b> Bishop Demetrios Book Signing 6 pm "Grace Unbound"	<b>15</b>   <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>16</b> Festival Set Up 9 am JOY Hike 3pm
<b>17</b>	<b>The Blind Man</b> Orthos 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Sunday School Promotion Sunday Fr. John Calabroser	<b>18</b> MCF looking: Kourambides 9 am Festival Preparations	<b>19</b> Bible Study 9 am. Festival Preparations	<b>20</b> Minoans Dance Practice Festival Set Up Evening  <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>21</b> Divine Services- 8:30 am Holy Assumption Festival Set Up	<b>22</b>   <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>23</b> Martin Greek Festival 11 am 9 pm 
<b>24</b>	<b>1st Ecumenical Council</b> Orthos 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Martin Greek Festival 11 am-5 pm	<b>25</b> Memorial Day Festival Clean Up Office Closed	<b>26</b> Bible Study 9 am.	<b>27</b> Welcome to Orthodoxy 7:30 pm  <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>28</b> Meeting Team 10 am. MCF Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 5:00 pm.	<b>29</b> Sack Meals 9 am  <i>Fast Day</i>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>Holy Pentecost</b> Orthos 8:30 am Liturgy 9:30 am Jonathan's Place Dinner	<b>June 1</b>					



Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church  
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THE WORD

MAY 2026

**MARIN GREEK FESTIVAL 2026**  
**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
FRIDAY, MAY 22ND, 5PM TO 9PM  
SATURDAY, MAY 23RD, 11AM TO 9PM  
& SUNDAY, MAY 24TH, 11AM TO 8PM

GREEK CUISINE  
CULTURE  
MUSIC  
DANCE  
FAITH  
FELLOWSHIP  
& FUN

**SAVE THE DATE**

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OVER 50 YEARS  
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