

SAINT GEORGE CATHEDRAL NEWS

Weeks of Feb. 10 & 17. Vol. XXXII No. 3



Saint Haralambos - February 10th

On the 10th of this month we celebrate the martyr Haralambos. In honor of the name day of our Deacon Haralambos, presented below is the life of this great witness-saint.

The holy, glorious Martyr Haralambos lived at the time of the Emperor Septimus Severus (194-211) in the city of Magnesia on the River Meander near Ephesus. He was 107 years old and had ministered as priest to the Christians of the city for many years, devotedly instructing them in the way of truth and preaching Christ to all, regardless of the threats of the pagans.

When he was denounced as a dangerous mischief-maker and brought before the tribunal of the Governor Lucian, he responded to his threats in these terms, "You little know what is for my good and well-being. Nothing could be more pleasing to me than to suffer for Christ. So don't hesitate to put my old body to the tortures you deem the worst, and you will learn that the power of my Christ cannot be overcome." He was then stripped of his priestly robe by the tormentors, who tore his flesh with iron claws without being able to elicit a single cry of pain from him. On the contrary, he said, "Thank you, brothers. In freeing my old body, you are renewing my soul and preparing it for everlasting blessedness."

When the Governor saw the steadfastness of the old man, far from repenting and giving glory to God, he hurled himself at him in uncontrollable rage, tearing at his skin with his bare hands. Then, by an act of God, his hands were suddenly severed and remained claw-like and lifeless on the Martyr's body. Moved to pity by the tyrant's cries and supplications, Saint Haralambos gave himself to prayer and obtained his healing. This astonishing miracle and demonstration of the love of Christians for their enemies brought Lucian, as well as the tormentors Porphyrius and Baptus, to believe in Christ God and to renounce the cult of idols. Three women onlookers also rushed forward and fearlessly proclaimed their faith.

When the Emperor Severus learned that the inhabitants of Magnesia and the surrounding country were abandoning idolatry and receiving holy Baptism from the old priest who had been condemned to death; that the blind were recovering their sight at his prayer and the crippled were walking, he was very troubled indeed. He immediately sent 300 soldiers to Magnesia with orders to bring the Saint, nailed and chained, to Antioch in Pisidia where he was residing. The soldiers treated the old man very badly on the road, until the horse on which they had set him suddenly uttered a condemnation of the Emperor as an enemy of God, and of his soldiers as slaves of the Devil—to the great terror of the military, who for the remainder of the journey did the Saint no harm.

As soon as the venerable old man was brought before him, the Emperor had him thrown into a blazing furnace with a long skewer through his chest. However, the fire went out as soon as it touched the Saint who, to the Emperor's astonishment, remained insensible to what he suffered. What was the secret of his invulnerability, the tyrant wanted to know. "The power of Christ!" replied the Saint. Severus then put this to the test and presented him with a man possessed by a demon for thirty-five years. The Saint drove out the unclean spirit with a single word. Severus next produced the corpse of a young man about to be buried. After addressing a fervent prayer to God, Saint Haralambos gave the youth his hand and, to the Emperor's amazement, raised him from the bier as though from sleep. **(Continued on the next page)**

Upcoming Events

Ministry Meetings

Festival Committee

Tuesday, Feb. 12th at 5pm in the Church Library

Daughters of Penelope's Shriners' Hospital Birthday Party

Thursday, Feb. 14th at 2pm

Parish Council Meeting

Monday, Feb., 18th at 6pm in the Church Library

Daughters of Penelope

Thursday, February 21st at 6pm in the Small Hall

Youth Events

Hope & Joy

Saturday, Feb. 16th at 10 am in the church gym

Festival Baking

Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 9:30 am in the kitchen

Tuesday, Feb., 19 at 9:30 am in the kitchen

Then the Prefect Crispus shouted, "Your Majesty should put this sorcerer to death straight way!" At this, the Emperor's hatred broke out again and he commanded Saint Haralambos to sacrifice to the idols. On his refusal, he ordered them to break his jaw with stones and to set his beard on fire. But God acted once again. The flames turned on the tormentors and the place where they stood was shaken by an earthquake.

Lifted up off his throne and suspended in the air, the Emperor was whipped for a good while by unseen angels. On learning of his predicament, his daughter Galinia confessed Christ as Almighty and came to implore the holy Martyr to release her father from chastisement. This he did; but the Emperor's amazement at the power of God was short-lived, and he soon returned to his idolatrous madness. Despite the remonstrances of Galinia, who reminded him of the divine blessings which had lighted on him, he kept Saint Haralambos in custody and had him tortured anew. He also turned on Galinia and threatened her with death unless she sacrificed. She made as if to obey but, on entering the temple, she threw the statues to the ground and broke them in pieces. Severus sent to the foundry to have new statues cast, but she shattered these too, so that he became a laughing-stock.

Severus then made a last attempt to break the instigator of his daughter's conversion. But Saint Haralambos withstood every device of his tormentors with adamant fortitude and all the onlookers were dazzled by the brilliance of Grace. He welcomed the death sentence with joy, and, on reaching the place of execution, he raised his hands and eyes to heaven. He thanked God for having brought him to the issue of his contest, and he asked Him to grant salvation of soul, health of body and abundance of good things in the name of His Martyr. A voice from heaven was then heard. "Come Haralambos, valiant fighter, to share in the joy and splendor of the Martyrs and holy priests!" His head fell beneath the sword on February 10 and his body was buried by the blessed Galinia.

The skull of Saint Haralambos is kept at the Monastery of St. Stephen at Meteora. The fragments of his holy relics, which are to be found in many places in Greece and elsewhere, accomplish frequent miracles and have made Saint Haralambos, the most aged of all the holy Martyrs, especially dear to the people of Greece.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10	11	12 Festival Baking 9:30 am Festival Committee 5 pm	13 +	14 Daughters of Penelope Shriners Hospital Birthday Party 2 pm	15 +	16 HOPE & JOY 10 am
17 Triodion Begins Today	18 Parish Council 6 pm	19 Festival Baking 9:30 am	20	21 Daughters of Penelope 6 pm	22	23
 Fish allowed		 Dairy allowed		 Wine allowed		 Strict Fast

February 10

Altar Boys: Team Saint Nicholas - Zac Palmer, Constantine Gandis, Thomas Siachos, Theodore Blackstone, Nikolas Siachos

Parish Council: John Stathakis, Shane Taylor, Stacey Shinas, Billy Stathakis

Greeters: George Michael Jamra

Coffee Servers: The family of Jim Wolthusen

Memorials: 3 Year memorial for Jim Wolthusen

February 17

Altar Boys: Team Saint Andrew - Stefano Kapetanakis, Gerald Stathakis, Georgie Tomaras, Jay Huff, Evan Kapetanakis

Parish Council: George Marianos, Gus Stathos, Nick Demos, Hope Tz Schmalzl, Georgia Bracken

Greeters: Cathy Bowden

Coffee Servers: Sponsored by Philoptochos

News and Announcements

Hellenic Dance Festival

Congratulations to the two dance troupes that attended Hellenic Dance Festival this past Martin Luther King Jr. weekend!

Both of our teams represented our Saint George community well! The younger dance group brought home the **Folk Expression award, as well the second place, Gold Medal** overall for their dancing!

Our older group brought home the **Folk Expression award, the Best Costume award, and they also won the Gold Medal!**

Congratulations to all those who danced, as well as the small army of parents and volunteers who worked behind the scenes to work on costumes, teach the dances, and ensure that a wonderful time was had by all!



Greenville Male Chorale

Under the leadership of local co-founders Louise Kiriakides and Hope Kapetanakos, a Greenville male chorus has been formed! This male chorus will serve as a compliment to our choir; being an independent force available for other endeavors such as fundraisers

Leon Mellisas of Atlanta is assisting in the formation of this group. He is director of the male chorus of Charleston and Atlanta.

Practices will be held once a month. Auditions will also be held during these practices. Please contact either Hope or Louise for more information.

Louise Kiriakides - 864-288-5104 - lkiriakides@yahoo.com

Hope Kapetanakos - 864-244-7746 - kapetanh@att.net

College Student Name Collection

Our Cathedral GOYA is preparing once again to send out notes and care packages to our college students, letting them know that they're still thought about loved here, wherever they may be now. If you have a son or daughter who is away at college, please send their name and address to **Denise Gandis, at denisegandis@gmail.com**

Parking Reminder

This is a friendly reminder to park by the church off ce when visiting the church on weekdays. The parking lot behind the cathedral is rented out during the week, so in order to avoid being ticketed by Lanier Parking, please park on the church off ce side of the Hellenic Center. If you happen to receive a ticket, just come by the church off ce and we will get the ticket waived.

Festival Baking

Please consider coming to help us bake for the festival. It's a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, service to our church and community, and chance to learn how to make delicious Greek foods! We will be meeting on Tuesday, **February 12th at 9:30 am in the kitchen, and Tuesday, February 19th at 9:30 am** in the same place!

Daughters of Penelope Announcements

Shriner's Hospital Valentine Day Party- February 14th @ 2:00.

Helpers, please arrive at 1:30 to help with set up. Each Daughter is asked to donate 2 board games for this beautiful outreach; children ages 19 months to 19 years old. Please give games to Sisters' Frances Pappas or Celia Trakas Wrice by February 10th.

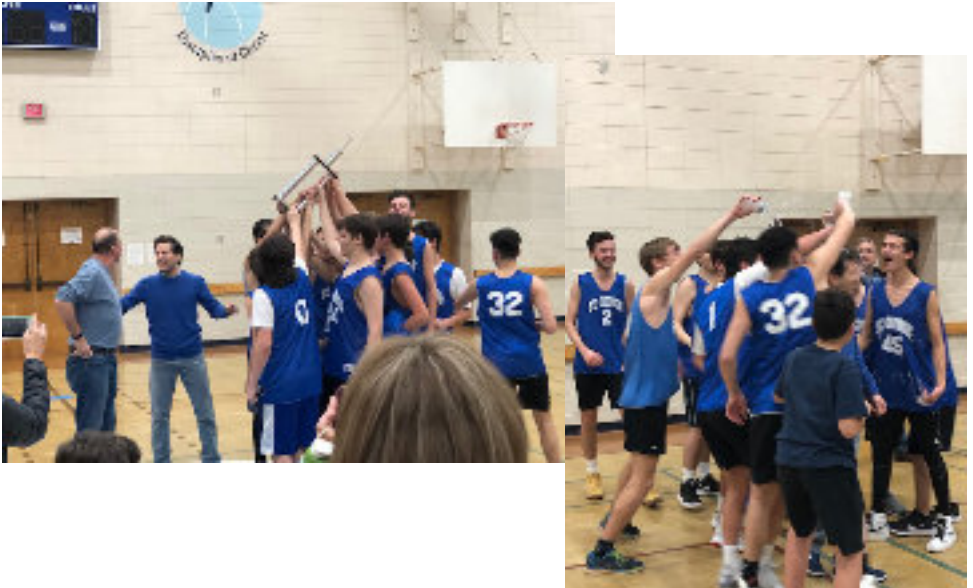
Gift of Life Blood Connection Blood Drive @ St. George on February 17th 10:30 1:30. Thank you in advance for sharing the gift of life.

AHEPA-DAUGHTERS Annual Dinner/Bingo Night Feb. 21st @ 6:00 in Small Hall. Join us for a night of fun, food, and fellowship. February is also reinstatement free month.

Church League Basketball Champions!

I am extremely proud of the boys on and off the court and feel very blessed to be a part of their lives. All twelve players gave everything they had all year, on every play physically and mentally. With only 4 wins during the regular season, that included a 20 point loss to the team we played in the championship, the odds were already against this group of 12. However, these young men played with passion, integrity, and continued to work hard all season, this perseverance ultimately showed in the final game. They won the tournament for themselves, their teammates, loved ones, and their beloved St. George, we should all be so very proud of them!

- Bo Theodore, Boys' Team Coach





Philoptochos News

Warmest New Years Greetings in Christ. We began the New Year by our Annual Cutting of the Vasilopita in the Hellenic Center after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, January 6th. On this Special Day we collected many Heartfelt Donations from Our Cathedral Family for The St. Basil Orphanage. We Truly Thank You for your kind Donations that will go to Help all The Children of the St. Basil's Orphanage.

We also began the New Year with our First Meeting of the New Year on Tuesday, January, 8, 2019 in the Small Hall at 6pm promptly. There were 24 Members in Attendance. We had a Wonderful meeting filled with many accomplishments. We also Thank Our January Hostesses Ms. Penelope Ervin, Ms. Nikki Koutsoukis, and Ms. Maria Lalas. They had such Delectable Treats, and Beautiful Bingo Gifts.

Philoptochos is the Second Hand of the Cathedral and is filled with Beautiful Loving Members that have focused their Purpose to help those in Need. Philoptochos has been involved with the AGAPE PROJECT in helping with collecting Items for the Homeless and Less Fortunate by collecting Clothing Items Year round. This Project wouldn't be possible without Your Kind and Generous Hearts. We are truly Grateful to Everyone helping us with this Heartfelt Special Project. Philoptochos will be taking the AGAPE PROJECT One Step further by Providing Meals this New Year. We will be cooking and taking the Meals to Various Places this upcoming New Year: United Ministries, Shepherds Gate, Boys Home, Men Home, and Womens Home. These Beautiful Members are filled with much unselfish Agape in their Hearts and seek to help those in need and help provide much Love to All.

We Cordially Invite You with Open Arms and Warm Hearts to Please Come and Join this Much Loving Philanthropic Organization that touches Many Lives in the Upstate Community, The United States, and other Areas of the World that has much Need.

On Behalf of All the Members of St. Barbara Ladies Philoptochos Society We Wish Everyone A Blessed New Year Filled with Good Health, Much Joy, and Happiness.

- Francis Pappas, Philoptochos President

Saint George Greek
Orthodox Cathedral
406 N. Academy St.
Greenville, SC 29601
864-233-8531

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