

St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
1425-27 S. 10th St., Sheboygan, WI 53081
Church Phone: 920-452-2296 Office Hours M-F 11:30am to 4:30 pm
Fr's Home Phone: 920-467-4924 Fr's Cell: 920-627-7735
Sunday Orthros: 8:45am Holy Liturgy: 10:00am
Fr. Leo Gavrilos' email: frleo@stspyridonsheboygan.org



JANUARY 2018 BULLETIN

Sunday, December 31st, 2017, Sunday before Theophany

II Timothy 4: 5-8, Dr. John Revelis

Mark 1: 1-8

Prosfora, Faye Sippel

Coffee Social, **Open**

Monday, January 1st, 2018, New Year's Day, Feast Day of St. Basil

NOTE TIME CHANGE: Orthros at 9:45 a.m. and Liturgy at 10:30

Colossians 2: 8-12, Mary Holden

Luke 2: 20 - 21 & 40 - 52

Prosfora - Phyllio Toniolo

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 6th, the Feast of Theophany (EPIPHANY)

Orthros - 9:00 a.m.

Holy Liturgy - 10:00 a.m.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS - 11:15 a.m.

Titus 2: 11 - 14 & 3: 4 - 7, Paul Peterson

Prosfora - Argie Revezoulis

Coffee Social - **Open**

Sunday, January 7th, Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist

Acts 19: 1-8, Nick Karvelas

John 1: 29 - 34

Prosfora - Faye Sippel

Coffee Social - Robb VandeVrede

Sunday, January 14th, the Sunday after Theophany

*****Short Taste of Greece Update Meeting after Coffee Social*****

Ephesians 4: 7 – 13, Elene Rautmann

Matthew 4: 12 – 17

Prosfora – Carol Tsagarakis

Coffee Social – **Open**

Sunday, January 21st, the 15th Sunday of St. Luke

I Timothy 4: 9 – 15, Joshua Herr

Luke 19: 1 – 10

Prosfora – Phyllio Toniolo

Coffee Social – Helen Lambron & Judi Fergadakis in memory of the dearly departed

Sunday, January 28th, Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

II Timothy 3: 10 – 15, Rob VandeVrede

Luke 18: 10 – 14

Prosfora – Argie Revezoulis

Coffee Social – **Open**

FATHER'S CORNER

❖ **Please notice that we have some very important Great Feast Days this month.** First of all we have the Great Feast Day of St. Basil the Great on January 1st, which is also New Year's Day. Orthros will be chanted at 9:45a.m. Holy Liturgy will be 45 minutes later on this day, at 10:30 a.m. just in case we need a little more sleep time.

On Saturday, January 6th we will celebrate Holy Liturgy for the Great Feast Day of THEOPHANIA, (Epiphany), which will be followed by the Blessing of the Waters. If you have your water bottle from last year please bring it with you so that you can take Holy Water home with you. We do have bottles available at church. **Also, for those wishing to have their homes blessed for Epiphany,** you will find a sign-up sheet on the PANGARI. Sign up with your name, address and phone and we will set up a time for the home blessing.

On Sunday, January 7th we will celebrate The Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist. "So Father Leo, what does SYNAXIS mean? What is so special about this Sunday?" Simply put, **SYNAXIS** means *the gathering*. We celebrate Theophany on Saturday, Jan. 6th, when many people gathered at the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. On the next day, which in this case is Jan. 7th, we celebrate the person, in this case John the Baptist who was very associated with that event. Another example, on the day after the Annunciation, March 25th, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel, who was very much associated with the Annunciation.

- ❖ **We have Coffee Social hosts for Sunday, January 7th and the 21st.** The 14th and the 28th of January are open, as is the entire month of February and March. We all like coffee and so if you would like to sign up for a Sunday, please do. Thank you. Coffee after Church is good. ☺
- ❖ **A NOTE FROM ST. NICHOLAS HOSPICE.** St. Nicholas Hospice is looking for volunteers to join their team. In as little as 4 hours per month, you can be a part of a team that brings quality to the lives of hospice patients. Volunteers fill a variety of roles, such as being a companion, assisting with tasks around the house, reading or praying with the patient and relieving caregivers for a short time. The hours and assignments vary and can be flexible to your schedule. Please contact Stephanie at SHSH St. Nicholas Hospice at 920-457-5770 for more details on how you can be part of making a difference in the lives of others.
- ❖ **As was announced at St. Spyridon Vespers,** the Parish Council has instituted the naming of A St. Spyridon Steward of the year. Special congratulations to Parish Council Treasurer Kim Theodoroff who was honored last year, 2016, and to Jim Christus who was honored this year, 2017. This honor goes to a person who has and continues to serve our St. Spyridon Parish in ways that go far above and beyond the call of duty. Both Kim and Jim are most worthy of this honor as they both serve St. Spyridon in multiple ways that are absolutely vital but so often go unnoticed by most. Thank you Kim and Jim and congratulations. We will name a worthy recipient again next year at our St. Spyridon Vespers.
- ❖ **We want to welcome and thank Dr. Louie Coulis who has joined our Parish Council.** Due to a resignation we have had a vacancy on the Council and Dr. Louie has graciously accepted the responsibility of that vacancy. Thank you Doc and God Bless.
- ❖ **I would like to say a personal thank you to all the ladies who contributed goodies for St. Spyridon Vespers and to the ladies who assisted Dr. Nicole and Barb Chambers in hosting the event.** A special thank you to Mrs. Corina Stephani for baking the ARTOUS, to Zoe Kastanias for decorating the Icons of both St. Nicholas and St. Spyridon, and finally to all the people who made special Christmas donations that decorate our church for Christmas and New Year's. Thank you KAI TOU XROVOU NA IMASTE KALLA!!!
- ❖ **Beginning on Sunday, January 21, 2018 in addition to the class that Dr. Coulis teaches we are going to have Sunday School for our children ages 8 – 11.** The class will meet in the classroom in the parish home and it will be taught by two of our wonderful ladies, Mrs. Elena Benzschawel and Mrs. Tatiana Reseburg. Elena and Tatiana have graciously offered to work with our children. I know our little ones will love this class and their new teachers as much as the older group loves Dr. Coulis and Paul Peterson. I am in the

process of reviewing classroom materials for those children, and those materials will be in place by January 21st.

- ❖ **Congratulations to Panagiotis and Panagiota Loutsos** on the birth of their first grandchild. It's a boy, and he will be called...you got it...Panagioti! This wonderful new blessing from God is the child of Panagioti and Panagiota's son and daughter in law, Stamelos and Kristin Loutsos. Congratulations and blessings to the entire family!

THOUGHTS FOR EACH DAY OF THE YEAR BY ST. THEOPHAN THE RECLUSE

"Someone turned to the Lord with a question: 'Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?' What necessitated this question? Were there no scriptures? Was the bible not read every Sunday? There was everything, both scriptures and its interpreters; but in society differences of opinion went around and muddled everyone. The Pharisees said one thing, the Sadducees another, the Essenes their own thing, the Samaritans their own. In Galilee, perhaps even pagan teachings were heard, and each put forth their own with conviction. Anyone who was zealous for salvation naturally came to the question: 'what should I do? What should I follow, that my soul not be destroyed?' Our situation now is very similar to those times. What teachings are going around our schools, our college campuses, in society, and in what we read daily? For the indifferent it is nothing; but they for whom every teaching is not the same cannot but seek an answer to the question, 'what should I do?' So what is the solution? The solution is the one our Lord and Savior gave: Believe and live as God commanded, and do not listen to people's talk; let them talk. The talk of scientists is like rumors and fashion: today they say one thing, tomorrow another. But we should only heed God's word, which abides and lives unto the ages. What the Lord commanded no philosophizing can revoke. The judgement indeed will be according to the word of the Lord, and not according to our philosophizing."