“I am not ashamed of the Good News because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.” (Romans 1:16)

Great and Holy Saturday Night—The Pascha of the Lord
will be celebrated on Saturday, April 27th
and into the morning of Sunday, April 28th

Christ is Risen!
**WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sundays**
- Morning Prayer 9am
- Divine Liturgy 10am

**Special Lenten Services**
- April 1st—17th

**Monday Evenings**
- Great Compline 6pm

**Wednesday Evenings**
- Pre-sanctified Liturgy 6pm

**Friday Evenings**
- Salutation Services to the Theotokos 7pm

**Saturday, April 20th**
- The Raising of Lazarus
- Morning Prayer 9am
- Divine Liturgy 10am

**Holy Week and Easter Services may be found on pp. 4-5**

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**Saint Paul’s Greek Orthodox Church**

4949 Alton Parkway, Irvine, California 92604-8606
Office Telephone: (949) 733-2366 ● Fax: (949) 733-0962
http://www.stpaulsirvine.org

Father Steven Tsichlis, Pastor — Father Theofanis J. Degaitas, Assistant Priest
Deacon Daniel Cunningham, Parish Deacon - Dean Langis, Pastoral Assistant
Michele Mylonas, Office Administrator
Carolyn Kouracos, Office Assistant — Denise Oller, Office Assistant

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**SUNDAY, APRIL 7th**

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**ISIAH HOUSE**

A homeless shelter for women and house of hospitality

**A Presentation by Leia Smith**

Immediately followed by a luncheon in the parish hall with all proceeds benefitting the work of Isaiah House

Sponsored by

Philoptochos
The Women’s Study Fellowship
The Women’s Bible Study
The Sacrament of Confession During Great Lent: If We Confess Our Sins...

Orthodox Christians should participate in the Sacrament of Confession at the very minimum of once a year, preferably three to four times a year during the four great fasting periods of our Church (Great Lent, before Easter; Advent, before Christmas; the August 1-15 fast to honor the Theotokos; and the Apostles’ Fast, usually in June). Just as we need an annual check-up with our doctor even though we might not feel sick, so we also need to have a regular spiritual check-up for our spiritual health and well-being. The Church believes that Confession is a sacrament indispensable for our salvation. Please make your appointment with Father Steve or Father Theofanis for the Sacrament of Confession during Great Lent by calling the Church Office at 949-733-2366. Our Saint Paul’s Bookstore has pamphlets and books to help our faithful understand and prepare for this vital, healing and life-transforming sacrament!

The Paschal Choir is rehearsing on Sundays in April! Please plan to join the Paschal Choir to sing the Paschal canon of hymns praising the Resurrection of Christ this coming Easter evening and at the Vespers of Love on Sunday, April 28th at 12 Noon. We meet each Sunday in Lent just outside Father Steve’s office for practice after Liturgy, except for Palm Sunday. Please don’t pass up this most wonderful experience to worship Christ’s resurrection in the truly beautiful songs of praise written by St. John of Damascus (676-749AD). To participate, please call Genie Martin at: 949 831-5571, or just come every Sunday until Palm Sunday.

St. Paul’s Lenten Reading Project—“How To Be A Sinner” By Dr. Peter Bouteneff Of St. Vladimir’s Seminary

Please join us as we read this inspiring and illuminating book for Great Lent. You may bring your $20 check to “St. Paul’s" and write "Lenten Reading Project" on the memo line or you can mail it to St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church, Attn: Dean Langis, 4949 Alton Pkwy. Irvine, CA 92604 and then pick up the book here at St. Paul's when it arrives. Or you may order the book directly to be shipped to your home at https://www.svspress.com/how-to-be-a-sinner/ Dr. Peter Bouteneff teaches courses in ancient and modern theology and spirituality at St Vladimir’s Orthodox Seminary, where he is Professor of Systematic Theology. One reviewer says, “We call ourselves sinners in much of our church life. Yet the sinner identity when done right brings peace of mind, a clear conscience, and love for others. Addressing topics like guilt, shame, and self-care, this compassionate guide will help you reflect on your life in surrender to God’s mercy."
# The 2019 Schedule of Services/Holy Week and Pascha

## The Saturday of Lazarus – April 20th
- **Morning Prayer** at 9AM
- **The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom** at 10AM

## Palm Sunday – April 21st
- **Morning Prayer** at 9AM
  - *Gospel*: Matthew 21:1-17
- **The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom** at 10AM
  - *Epistle*: Philippians 4:4-9
- **The Blessing of Palms** at 11:30AM
- **The First Bridegroom Service** at 7PM
  - *Gospel*: Matthew 21:14-43

## Great and Holy Monday – April 22nd
- **The Second Bridegroom Service** at 7PM

## Great and Holy Tuesday – April 23rd
- **The Third Bridegroom Service** at 7PM

## Great and Holy Wednesday – April 24th
- **The Sacrament of Anointing** at 3PM
  - *Epistle*: James 5:14-16
  - *Gospel*: Mark 6:7-13
- **The Sacrament of Anointing** at 7PM

## Great and Holy Thursday – April 25th
- **The Liturgy of St. Basil the Great** at 10AM
  - *Epistle*: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-32
- **The Washing of Feet** at 11:30AM
  - *Gospel*: John 13:3-17
- **The Service of the Twelve Gospels** at 7PM
Great and Holy Friday – April 26th

The Royal Hours  
10AM  
Prophecies: Isaiah 50:4-11; Isaiah 53:1-12; Jeremiah 12:1-15  
Epistles: Romans 5:6-10; Hebrews 2:11-18; Hebrews 10:19-31  

The Descent from the Cross  
3PM  
Prophecies: Exodus 33:11-23; Job 42:12-17  
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:2  
Gospel: Matthew 27:1-61  

The Lamentations before the Tomb  
7PM  
Prophecy: Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Epistles: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8; Galatians 3:13-14  
Gospel: Matthew 27:62-66  

Great and Holy Saturday – April 27th

The Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
10AM  
Epistle: Romans 6:3-11  
Gospel: Matthew 28:1-20  

The Canon of the Resurrection  
9PM  

The Chrismation of the Catechumens  
9:30PM  

PASCHA/The Resurrection Service  
10PM  
Gospel: Mark 16:1-8  

The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom  
11PM  
Gospel: John 1:1-17  

The Holy Pascha of our Lord – Sunday, April 28th

The Vespers of Love  
12 Noon  
Gospel: John 20:19-25  
(Read in 12 languages to symbolize the universality of the Gospel)
What an amazing turnout at March 3rd Meatfare Sunday Luncheon! The Parish Center was FULL TO CAPACITY: many individuals and families enjoying a delicious hamburger lunch and, very importantly, FELLOWSHIP with one another leading to the start of the Lenten season. Many thanks to our “kitchen crew”: Wayne House, Johnathan Leara, Chris Louis and Chef George Kookootsedes. Your Agape donations to the luncheon provided over $850 in additional funds for Philoptochos to send to Holy Cross/Hellenic College. Thank you! Our Lenten Project to provide needed food and non-food items to St. Innocent Orphanage continues through April 14th. See flyer for the list of items needed. This is an excellent opportunity to practice almsgiving during our Lenten season. Please deposit your donated items in the boxes designated in the Parish Center. Need baked goods for Pascha? Philoptochos is once again taking pre-orders as listed on our Palm Sunday Bake Sale form, deadline is SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH. To guarantee that you get the items you want, please fill out and send/bring to Church the form in this Good News. There will be additional items for sale on Palm Sunday, April 21st, but we sell out fast! NEW THIS YEAR: Homemade Spanakopita! Pre-order only. UPCOMING BAKING WORKSHOPS: Tuesday, April 9th – Kourambiethes 10 a.m.; Thursday, April 11th - Koulourakia 10 a.m., both in the Parish Center. Please come and help and share a Lenten lunch. When you are a member of Philoptochos, you support MANY ministries locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Your membership and stewardship make up half of our yearly budget, the remainder from fundraising. These funds allow us to “DO MORE DOING!” If you have not already renewed or become a new member for 2019, we continue to invite you to join us to help those in need. Membership forms are always available on the Philoptochos table in the Parish Center and below:

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St. Paul’s Greek Orthodox Church
PHILOPTOCHOS

- 2019 PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERSHIP
- 2019 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (men/non-voting)

Full Name:

<table>
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<th>Last</th>
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Address:

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City: State: ZIP Code:

Home Phone: ( )

Cell Phone: ( )

E-mail Address:

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<tr>
<th>St. Paul’s Philoptochos Stewardship Donation</th>
<th>$80</th>
<th>$75</th>
<th>$125</th>
<th>other</th>
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2019 TOTAL STEWARDSHIP $

☐ CHECK: Made out to St. Paul’s Philoptochos

Send or deliver completed application and payment to:
St. Paul’s Philoptochos, 4949 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92604
Questions? E-mail tblaude@cox.net or call 714-731-7722

☐ ONLINE: Go to St. Paul’s website, select “Philoptochos” under the ministries link, click on “Donate to Philoptochos”
PHILOPTOCHOS MEANS “LOVE FOR THE POOR”

St. Paul’s Philoptochos Lenten Project benefiting St. Innocent Orphanage

WHAT: Please donate any of the following items:

CLEANING/KITCHEN SUPPLIES
Laundry detergent
Dishwashing liquid soap
Plastic food containers
Liquid hand soap
Hand sanitizer
Wax paper
Aluminum foil
Plastic wrap
Napkins
Ziploc bags (sandwich/large size)
Toilet Paper
Paper towels

ANIMAL FOOD
Dog, cat, and/or fish food

HYGIENE
Mouthwash
Shampoo
Combs/hairbrushes

FOOD:
Rice
Pinto beans dry
Cream of Wheat
Olive Oil
Tomato Puree
Jam
Canned Fruit Mix
Canned mushrooms
Ragu Sauce
Ketchup
Brown sugar
Maple Syrup
Natural honey
Granulated coffee
Granola bars
Bottle water (for school lunch)
Canned chicken
Canned salmon
Low sugar cereal
Salt
Tea

WHEN: FEBRUARY 24th-APRIL 14th

WHERE: Bring to Parish Center and put in the boxes labeled "LENTEN PROJECT DONATIONS".

For Questions: Please contact Maria Elena at (949) 706-0692
PHILOPTOCHOS MEANS “LOVE FOR THE POOR”

**ST. PAUL’S PHILOPTOCHOS ANNUAL**

**PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019**

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<tr>
<td>Pascha Bread</td>
<td>Sm. $10.00/Lrg. $12.00</td>
<td>Sm. $12.00/Lrg. $14.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koulourakia</td>
<td>$ 10.00/Dozen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kourambiethes</td>
<td>$ 11.00/Dozen</td>
<td>$ 12.00/Dozen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paximadia</td>
<td>$ 8.00/Dozen</td>
<td>$ 9.00/Dozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Egg Dye</td>
<td>$ 2.00/Pkg.</td>
<td>$ 2.00/Pkg.</td>
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*NEW!* Homemade Frozen Pan of Spanakopita. Bake and Serve. 16 pieces 2” x 4”: $20.00 @

**PRE-ORDER ONLY! NOT AVAILABLE ON DAY OF BAKE SALE**

Please return your pre-order form to St. Paul’s Philoptochos, 4949 Alton Pkwy., Irvine 92604 or to the Philoptochos table on Sundays. **Deadline for preorders is April 10th!**

Small Bread ________ = $__________

(Please Check: WITH _____ or WITHOUT _____ Mastiche)

Large Bread ________ = $__________

(Please Check: WITH _____ or WITHOUT _____ Mastiche)

Koulourakia _____ doz. = $__________

Kourambiethes _____ doz. = $__________

Paximadia _____ doz. = $__________

Red Egg Dye _____ pkg. = $__________

Spanakopita _____ pans = $__________

**TOTAL** $__________

Name: __________________________________________

Phone: __________________ Email: __________________

Please make checks payable to St. Paul’s Philoptochos. Payment must accompany all orders.

**Pre-orders will be ready for pick up on Palm Sunday, April 21st, following Liturgy.**

For Questions, please call Maria Koutures (949) 559-1370
Agape Celebration of Love

"Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.”
Matthew 18:5

in support of
the Kids ‘n’ Cancer Ministry

Sunday May 5, 2019

Newport Beach Country Club
1 Clubhouse Drive
Newport Beach, California
Two o’clock

$75 per person
Register online at sfphiloptochos.org
or call 415-431-2600

Kindly respond by April 20, 2019

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco
Ladies Philoptochos Society
THE WOMEN’S STUDY FELLOWSHIP WILL MEET ON MONDAY EVENINGS APRIL 1st & 15th AT 7PM

Our Women’s Study Fellowship, led by Dorothea Love, is currently focusing on a study of “The Return of the Prodigal Son,” a book by Henri Nouwen. The purpose of this study is to bring women to a deeper relationship with the Lord Jesus by offering personalized study of the Scriptures, small group discussion and prayer. For more information, contact Dorothea at Doroelvis@gmail.com

OUR LADERA RANCH STUDY FELLOWSHIP WILL MEET ON MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 8th AT THE HOME OF JIM & MONICA LEONTAS!

We meet at the home of Jim & Monica Leontas—20 Thalia Street in Ladera Ranch, 92694—at 6:30PM. Father Steve is finishing St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians, a letter that St. Paul wrote while in prison in Rome awaiting his execution for the “crime” of being a Christian. For more information or to RSVP, please call or text Monica at 949-413-3395.

ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY 101 WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3rd, 10th and 17th AT 7PM!

OC101, taught by Father Steve, meets at 7PM in the Education Building in the Father George Stephanides Library. We are wrapping up this class whose purpose is to provide a broad overview of the Church’s faith and life. Please join us for our final 3 sessions!

OUR ROMAN CATHOLIC/ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN BOOK CLUB WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, APRIL 9th AT ST. PAUL’S COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH IN TUSTIN AT 7PM!

We are currently reading Into Your Hands, Father: Abandoning ourselves to the God who loves us by Father Wilfrid Stinissen, a Carmelite priest and monk in Belgium. This short, yet profound book has one central idea: surrender to God, abandoning ourselves to the God who loves us completely, totally, with a love for which there are no adequate words. As with many ancient and modern spiritual writers, Father Stinissen distinguishes three degrees or stages in this surrender, ending with a surrender so complete that we become tools in the hands of God – much as St. Paul wrote, “It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me” (Galatians 2:20); and as Mother Teresa of Calcutta said: “I am a little pencil in God’s hands. He does the writing. He does everything and sometimes it’s really hard because it is a broken pencil and He has to sharpen it a little more.”

THE WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY MEETS ON THURSDAYS AT 10am

The Women’s Bible Study is focusing on the Gospel of St. Luke and the companion volume also written by St. Luke the Evangelist, The Acts of the Apostles. The class is led by Eve Tibbs, and our discussions are informal and congenial. No previous Bible experience is required. Drop-ins, children and husbands are welcome.
GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP
The next meeting of the Bereavement Group led by Presvytera Elaine Stephanides is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 10:30 a.m. in the Father George Stephanides Library. Anyone grieving the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend. For further information please contact the Church Office at 949-733-2366. Thank you!

ST. PAUL’S LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO SAINT ANTHONY’S GREEK ORTHODOX MONASTERY IN ARIZONA ON FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, APRIL 5th TO 7th!
We invite our parishioners of all ages to join us! We plan to rent a van to leave St. Paul’s at 9 am on Friday, April 5th and to return Sunday night, April 7th—we can split the van and gas costs among us. Please R.S.V.P. to Dean Langis at 949-733-2366 or at dlangis@stpaulsirvine.org so that we can get an exact headcount. You may visit the monastery website at www.stanthonysmonastery.org/index.php . Please come and bring the whole family for a spiritually uplifting and inspiring experience!

“VISITING ST. ANTHONY’S MONASTERY” BY SOPHIA KOLLIAS
I have been eagerly visiting St. Anthony’s Monastery every year for over 15 years. If I could, I would visit more than once a year. When I leave each time, I always regain peace and joy, gain a better understanding about our Orthodox faith, meet new brothers and sisters in Christ, and a desire to return again soon. For first-time visitors, I highly recommend reading the Monastery’s website, particularly “Pilgrim’s Guide” and “Monasticism” - the latter helps understand monastic life. Those who have never been always ask me, “What do you do there?” I choose to participate in all the Church services, even those at 1AM, and amazingly I always feel rested. I enjoy these beautiful services, hearing the monks chant and seeing only candles light the church. I visit the various churches, all different and all beautiful. I walk the pristine grounds, enjoying the desert landscape. I visit the bookstore which has an overwhelming amount of books and handmade items, and ask the knowledgeable monk questions about our faith. I help the monks with whatever work is needed - typically preparing food or cleaning. And I meet Orthodox pilgrims from around the world – U.S., Canada, Russia, Georgia, Romania, Greece, etc. We are truly blessed that the Elders and monks at St. Anthony’s Monastery open their home to guests and even provide accommodation, delicious meals, and spiritual guidance for us. It is one of my most favorite places on earth and I am very grateful to get closer to God during my retreats there.

AGAPE MINISTRY AT ISAIAH HOUSE
We are hosting Leia Smith, Catholic Worker, Isaiah House on April 7th, and hope you will all have a better understanding of their ministry, the homeless issue in Orange County, and the good works do. We are deeply grateful to Leia (and her husband, Dwight) for her service to the Lord. She is a true example for us on living a Christian life. We thank the extended Props Family for hosting March and the Yousef family for hosting April. May we remember the words of St. Paul, “Make love your aim.” (1 Cor. 14:1)
ST. PAUL’S PILGRIMAGE TO THE MONASTERIES OF NEW SKETE: MAY 15th -20th
All parishioners are invited to join Father Steve for St. Paul’s Retreat at the Monastery of New Skete located near the village of Cambridge, New York. The Monks have become well-known for their breeding and training of dogs, particularly German Shepherds; the nuns are well-known for the cheesecakes and have appeared on television cooking shows like Rachel Ray and others. Our retreat will take place from MAY 15th - 20th, this year. Located on the gentle slope of Two-Top Mountain (elevation 1,743 feet), it promises to be a spiritually uplifting time as we listen to the wisdom of the Monks & Nuns and worship & dine together. You will enjoy the scenic & peaceful setting of this Monastery & bring home a heart & mind filled with a deeper experience of Christ’s love, as lived by the Brothers & Sisters of New Skete! For more information please contact Dorothea Love at 949-351-5439.

THE ST. PAUL’S MEN’S FELLOWSHIP WILL MEET ON THURSDAY EVENINGS, APRIL 4th AND APRIL 18th, AT 7:30PM
IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING!
We invite the men of St. Paul’s to help one another in pursuing personal, communal and spiritual growth through friendships, the study of the Scriptures and the lives of the saints, mutual accountability and the art of regular prayer. Please join us on Thursdays, April 4th and 18th at 7:30PM in the Fireside Room adjacent to the Father Stephanides Library for our bi-weekly meetings.

DECORATING THE CHURCH WITH PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY AND FLOWERS FOR HOLY WEEK—Please contact Alysha Stout if you’d like to help!
Palm Sunday Decorating: If you would like to help with decorating our Church for Palm Sunday, please plan to meet in the Church around noon—following Liturgy—on the Saturday of Lazarus, April 20th. Alysha Stout is also asking if parishioners have some palm trees (big fonts) they would like to cut and bring in for Palm Sunday to be carried during the services. Holy Friday decorating of the Tomb of Christ: April 26th—Holy Friday morning, plan to meet in the narthex of the Church from 8am through 3pm. Holy Saturday decorating: on Saturday, April 27th—come help us put Easter Lilies in church after services that morning! Also, please don’t forget to bring LOTS of rose petals on Friday as Father Steve likes lots of rose petals for the Holy Saturday morning Liturgy. For more information, please contact Alysha at howdystouty@yahoo.com or call or text at 949-463-3453.

THE AMBASSADORS TRIP TO THE GETTY MUSEUM ON THURSDAY, APRIL 4th AT 10AM!
The Ambassadors will be making a trip up to Los Angeles at 10 am on Thursday, April 4th for a Docent-Guided Tour of the Getty Museum followed by a Lenten lunch there! Please come and bring a friend—all ages invited! For information, please call Dean at 949-733-2366.
HUNGER STRIKE—APRIL 13 & 14, 2019


All youth in grades 6 – 12 are invited to the Hunger Strike retreat on April 13 & 14, 2019 here at St. Paul’s. This year we’ll be going on a virtual trip to the lush, exotic, and mountainous country of Tanzania! We’ll begin our day with ice-breaker games, prayer, and a Tanzanian breakfast in the plaza.

Throughout the retreat participants will build a village and learn to identify with the poor around the world and in our own communities and we also gain a deeper and more personal understanding of our Orthodox faith. Retreat participants will participate in activities to raise both awareness and money for the needs of those in Tanzania who suffer the effects of poverty and who hunger for the hope found in Christ.

Retreat attendees will also have a chance to Skype with Tanzanian youth who will be participating in a youth retreat at Holy Apostles Church in Bukoba, Tanzania the same weekend Hunger Strike will be held here in Irvine.

This year the funds the teens raise will benefit St. Paul’s Mission Is Possible well digging project in Tanzania.

Find more information, register, and make a donation online at http://stpaulsirvine.org/hungerstrike/

FAMILY MISSION TRIP TO TANZANIA

June 15 – 29, 2019

All participants in Hunger Strike and their families are invited to participate in the first-ever Family Mission trip to Tanzania. Travelers will visit St. Paul’s church in Kobunswhi, meet Archbishop Jeronymos, see the capping off of the Hunger Strike well, participate in mini-youth retreat, and go on a 3-day safari to the Ngorongoro Crater. If interested in going please contact Carolyn Kouracos at carolyn@stpaulsirvine.org before April 13th for more information and to sign up.
St. Paul’s Choir
Palm Sunday Fish Luncheon
April 21, 2019
St. Paul’s Parish Event Center

Adults $15
Children $10
Free to children under age 5

Advance purchase only after Sunday Liturgy during Great Lent
Great & Holy Friday Youth Retreat

Together in Christ!

Friday, April 26, 2019
Ages 4 - High School
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Crafts | Films | Activities | Snacks
Worship at the Descent of the Cross Service

The Descent from the Cross Service begins at 3:00 pm. Parents, please plan to bring your children to this moving service immediately following the Retreat. Children may participate in the solemn Procession to lay the crucified Christ in the Tomb. Students should dress appropriately for Church and also for comfort during the Retreat. (Or bring a change of clothes.)

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
by April 22 since lesson & craft supplies must be purchased & prepared
Suggested donation $8.00 per student.

Parents and Grandparents: Your help is needed at this year's Retreat. To volunteer, please contact MaryAnne Smith at retreat@stpaulsirvine.org

GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM
One form may be used for all children in same family.
Suggested donation: $8 per child
Please mail or bring to the Church office by April 22nd.

Last Name: __________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________

Student Name(s): ______________________________________
Current grade(s): ___________________________ Ages: ___

Known allergies or medical concerns: __________________________

Parent’s name __________________________________________
Home telephone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________________________ Emergency Telephone: __________________________
Celebrate the Resurrection!

Join your family and friends at
Midnight Mezé
April 28, 2019
(Following the Resurrection Service and Paschal Liturgy)
Soup and Snacks provided by the Usher and Welcome Teams
Smiles provided by YOU!
The 2019 Annual Pascha Picnic
Sunday, April 28th at 1:30PM
Immediately following the Vespers of Love at 12 Noon

Reserve tables of 10 w/umbrella for $60 by Sunday, April 21st
Individual seating available for $10

Reserve traditional lamb dinners
for $22 per person by Sunday, April 21st

Children (under 12) dinners available for $15

Note: The day of the Picnic, dinners will cost $25 for adults & $17 for children
Dinners will not be served later than 3PM
Beverages: $2 (Soda, Water) $3 (Beer, Wine)
13 tables will be reserved for families requiring wheelchair / walker assistance

American/Greek Music, Easter Egg Hunt, Fun and Games for all ages
Make checks payable to: St. Paul’s Greek Orthodox Church
A Call for Stewardship Prayer & Self Examination at Lent

The origin of Lent dates back to when the Holy Spirit descended “like a dove” upon Jesus. We learned how the Spirit then led Christ into the wilderness where He spent forty (40) days in prayer and fasting. I remember the first time in Sunday School I heard of the miraculous journey Jesus took into the wilderness. I wondered how terrifying and alone He must have felt. I would try to put myself in His place and ask how could I survive under such forbidding conditions? Perhaps you came away with the same feelings after first hearing the story. I came to learn two important lessons soon thereafter. First, I learned that Jesus was never alone. The Spirit of God was with Him as was His awareness of His Father’s love and delight in Him. Secondly, I learned how God has used this extraordinary account of Christ’s journey as a parallel for us to commemorate and symbolically follow Him into a spiritual journey of our own. The Spirit that called Christ into this harrowing and ordeal now calls upon us to join Him in these 40 days of Lent.

During Lent, we are asked to set aside the distractions of the world and focus on God and two of the foremost characteristics of Jesus life: Sacrifice and Service. We are most like Christ when we serve as He served. Jesus poured out His short life on earth so that we would be saved, never thinking for a moment to benefit Himself. Paul described this perfectly when he wrote, “For you know the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.” (2 Corinthians 8:9)

The Lenten season that we spend on our relationship with Christ must include reflecting on the compassion He had for others. It is a time to open the doors to our hearts a little wider and reflect deeply how we are living our lives as disciples and as stewards of the Lords given gifts to us in the form of our time, talents and our treasures. An essential reverence of the Lenten season is becoming aware of not only the sacrifice and suffering of Christ, but also the suffering of others. Jesus teaches that true compassion feels the full depth of another’s need and calls upon us to fill that need. Just as Christ sought a greater connection with His Father in heaven in His spiritual journey in the wilderness, so too can we focus on obtaining a greater unity with Him with the sacrifices we can set aside for the benefit of St. Paul’s and others. This could be through additional financial offerings, donating goods we no longer need or use to charity, or increasing our personal time commitment to a ministry or cause here at St. Paul’s that is close to our heart.

We are rich and blessed in knowing the Lord’s calling for sacrifice, as well as for self-examination, self-discipline, and prayer. Prayer is not getting God to do our will. Prayer is preparing and calling us to action to do His will! Stewardship and prayer are alike in the manner they are privileged actions that call us to do both in His glory.

The Lord has set the season of Lent for us to take steps to realign our lives so that we focus on Him and His purposeful calling. He provides the most meaningful, extended 40 days of the year to examine our weaknesses, temptations, and indeed our commitment. As the Lord’s humble and obedient disciples, our willing hearts must show forth in our lives as we do His commandments. With every prayer and act of worship we make to improve our spiritual lives during Lent, let us demonstrate an even greater commitment to exercising good stewardship. Our commitment to faith-based generosity and the fruit we bear for Christ and St. Paul’s will shine the eternal light of life into an often dark and fallen world.

Lou Machos
Stewardship Committee
GIVING
AT SAINT PAUL'S

KIOSK
A quick donation with a swipe of a credit card.
(Can also be applied to your annual pledge)

ONLINE
Look for the DONATE tab on stpaulsirvine.org
(To donate and to make your annual pledge)

TEXT
Text a donation to 949-438-4843.
(Message the amount you wish to donate and you will get a receipt)

TRAY
Simply drop your donation in the tray
(To donate and to make your annual pledge)

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD - PSALMS 118
Photos, videos, and stories don’t ever fully prepare a person to step foot on foreign soil. Though one might be used to a similar climate, the air always feels a little different and the birds and bugs sing songs your ears have never heard. What always strikes me first about landing in another country is the way it smells. Tanzania certainly has its unique flavor that leave my senses marveling at the sights, sounds, smell, taste and touch that one can only breathe in to really understand.

Once on the road, the foot traffic is captivating. Men, women and children walk, often without shoes, carrying buckets of water, babies, bananas or great bushels of other crops atop their heads. Some are empty handed, and the foreign traveler is left wondering where they are going, or who might be waiting for them back at home. I’ve questioned countless narratives in my head about individuals I see walking along the Tanzanian roads. I wonder where a torn shirt came from, or when the last time it was washed. I wonder how long it takes that group of kids to fetch water, and if they know to boil it before drinking. I wonder how much water each day they get to drink. I wonder how long ago that small child started walking alone.

The one thing I never question about the Tanzanians is their effortless and unabashed expression of joy. In passing, the typical Tanzanian stares in earnest at the light skinned woman staring back. But when I smile at them, their faces light up and they smile right back. When I get out of the car to meet them, they touch me and laugh with me and expose me to pure, unadulterated love. Christ’s love. Of course I have arrived with the mzungus who bring the promise of a well with clean water to their village. But even on my last trip in 2010, when I visited the villages with a medical team to provide care for the sick, the unceasing joy was present as well. I am amazed at how these people can have so little: one shirt, maybe a pair of shoes, no money, no clean water; yet they carry with them so much joy.

The answers I sought on this trip lay in the 35 villages where our teams have dug wells. The answers were with the women who now have 2-4 extra hours every day, because they no longer have to walk long distances to fetch their daily water. They now use the time to do things like tend their crops and sew garments to make some money. The children likewise have stories to tell about the lessons they’ve learned in school, because now that their mothers don’t need their help fetching water, they can go more often and aren’t too tired from their morning journey to pay attention in class. Their daily lives are very simple. But a clean water source close in proximity makes an incredible impact in each and every one of those days.

There are stories I did not get to hear on this trip. I did not hear stories such as the village where everyone was infected with intestinal worms, or the young girl that was abused coming home late from fetching water or the young boy that died last week from malaria. Every sixty seconds, a child dies from preventable water borne illness. Yet, the Tanzanians continue to carry dirty water atop their heads and boundless joy in their hearts. Maybe it’s something you have to see and feel to really understand. But my prayer is that you hear their stories and look at the work our teams are doing to change things there. My prayer is that there is change in your heart, like there has been in mine. I pray you choose to share more joy, share more life, share more life. Water is life.

And with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 43:2

Jackie Lovato - Mission IS Possible
Enjoy a night of friends, wine tasting, host bar, fine dining, and dancing to world class live music. Cocktail Hour entertainment will feature flamenco classical guitarist Sergey Taranov, with renowned band The Black Market Trust entertaining us throughout the night. Live and silent auction items will help raise funds to drill and repair wells that bring safe water and sanitation and hygiene education to thousands in remote villages in Tanzania.

For more information visit us at www.mission-ispossible.org
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2019 PARISH COUNCIL
President: Steve Tibbs
Vice President: George Ekizian
Treasurer: Jim Dargavel
Secretary: John Leventis
Irene Aviles, Nick Diamantopoulos, Alex Gorbenko, Mark Hudoff, Diana Jianas, Steve Kouracos, Jim Leontas, Mitri Manneh, Ron Tedesco, George Theodorou and Dennis Thomas

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President: Michael Kartsonis
Vice President: Hugo Aviles
Secretary: Bill Lekas
Treasurer: Jim Eckstaedt
James Alexiou, Tykye Camaras,
Dean Conzaman, Nick Davis, Mark Hudoff, Alex Jianas, Anthony Kalomas, Ted Konopisos, Bill Lekas, Chris Louis, Tom Mallos, Steve Tibbs, Father Steven Tsichlis

ST. PAUL’S STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
Coordinator: Mark Hudoff
Jeff Levine, Lou Machos, Dennis Thomas, Alexis W eddingfeld

ST. PAUL’S PHILOPTOCHOS
(love for the Poor)
President: Helen Louis
Advisor: Nanette Bowman
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Second V.P.: Dora Morley
Recording Secretary: Barbara House
Corresponding Secretary: Linda Gorbenko
Treasurer: Karen Ekizian
Assistant Treasurer: Maria Koutures
Spiritual Advisor: Father Steve
Katherine Boucher, Bea Dargavel, Kathy Gabriel, Diana Jianas, Joyce Kechian, Alexis Konopisos, Maria Elena Konugres, Denise Leara, Linda Livadas, Cherise Matthews, Andrea Price, Maria Props, Carol Sekeris

AGAPE OUTREACH
At Isaiah House: Sandy Cooper & Jeri Konopisos

MISSIONS COMMITTEE
(Mission is Possible)
Chairman: Alex Gorbenko
Secretary: Nadine Mwesigwa
Treasurer: Jennifer Schipsi
St. Photini Well Project: Adam Mwesigwa

AMBASSADORS (AGES 55 AND UP)
Coordinated by: Dean Langis

ST. PAUL’S LIBRARY
Jennifer Mitchell and Georgia Theodorou

BIBLE STUDY PROGRAMS
Women’s Bible Study: Eve Tibbs
Orthodox Koinonia Bible Study: Dean Langis

CHURCH CATECHETICAL SCHOOL
Executive Director: Eve Tibbs
Directors: Denise Canellos, Dorothea Love, Dora Morley
MaryAnne Smith, Steve Tibbs

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Orthodox Christianity 101: Fr. Steve
Orthodox/Catholic Book Club: Fr. Steve
Women’s Study Fellowship: Dorothea Love

ST. PAUL’S BOOKSTORE
Denise Oller and Joanne Lorton

YOUTH MINISTRIES
Acolytes: John Britigan
GOYA: Nicholas Kouracos
Youth Ministry Team: Irene Aviles, Bea Dargavel, Rama Debbaneh, Jennifer Hampson, Juliana W issa

PARENTS GROUP
Coordinator: Irene Aviles

CHOIR
Director: Eve Tibbs
President: Stacy Gentry
Vice-President: Maria Elena Konugres
Treasurer: John Smith
Secretary: Diane Elias

BREAD FOR THE LITURGY
Coordinator: Deacon Daniel Cunningham

WELCOME MINISTRY
Coordinator: George Ekizian

USHER MINISTRY
Coordinators: Leo Lovato and Theresa Wittman

ARCHONS OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
Tykye Camaras, Archon Lambadarios
Ted Konopisos, Archon Ieronymos

GREEK DANCE GROUP
Coordinator: Georgia Theodorou
Instructors: Cassiani Kateyiannis & Nicholas Kouracos

GREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES
Adults: Nina Luke
Children: Loula Katalanos
# April

**In the Year of our Lord 2019**

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<th>Sun</th>
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| Great Compline, 6 pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 pm  
Women’s Study Fellowship, 7 pm | Grief and Bereavement Group, 10:30 am  
Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6 pm  
Adult Greek School, 6 pm  
Orthodox Christianity 101, 7 pm | Ambassadors Trip to the Getty Museum with Lunch, 10 am  
Women’s Bible Study, 10 am  
Men’s Fellowship, 7:30 pm  
Orthodox Koinonia Bible Study—7:30pm | St. Paul’s Pilgrimage to St. Anthony’s Monastery from April 5 to 7—Departure from St. Paul’s, 9 am  
Soup at Six, 6 pm  
4th Salutations to the Theotokos, 7 pm | St. Paul’s Pilgrimage to St. Anthony’s Monastery from April 5 to 7 |

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| **St. John of the Ladder**  
Morning Prayer, 9 am  
Divine Liturgy, 10 am  
Luncheon supporting Isaiah House | Great Compline, 6 pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 pm  
Ladera Ranch Study Fellowship, 6:30 pm | Orthodox/Catholic Book Club at St. Paul’s Coptic, 7 pm  
Choir, 7 pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous Men’s Meeting, 7 pm | Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6 pm  
Adult Greek School, 6 pm  
Orthodox Christianity 101, 7 pm | Women’s Bible Study, 10 am  
Orthodox Young Adults/OYA Almsgiving Service Project, 7 pm  
Orthodox Koinonia Bible Study—St. Daniel, 7:30pm | Soup at Six, 6 pm  
Akathist Hymn to the Theotokos, 7 pm | **Hunger Strike Retreat**  
for Grades 6 to 12 from 9 am Saturday, April 13th through 2 pm on Sunday, April 14th |

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| **St. Mary of Egypt**  
Morning Prayer, 9 am  
Divine Liturgy, 10 am  
Visits to Elderly Shut-ins | Great Compline, 6 pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 pm  
Women’s Study Fellowship, 7 pm | Parish Council, 6 pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous Men’s Meeting, 7 pm | Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 6 pm  
Adult Greek School, 6 pm  
Orthodox Christianity 101, 7 pm | Women’s Bible Study, 10 am  
Men’s Fellowship, 7:30 pm  
Orthodox Koinonia Bible Study—St. Daniel, 7:30pm | Kids Club, Fireside Chat 6:30 pm | **Lazarus Saturday**  
Morning Prayer, 9 am  
Divine Liturgy, 10 am  
Lenten Communion Breakfast and Palm Cross Making, 11:30 am |

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| **Palm Sunday**  
Morning Prayer, 9 am  
Divine Liturgy, 10 am  
Choir Luncheon  
Philoptochos Bake Sale  
Bridegroom Service 7 pm |     |     |     |     |     |     |
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**GREAT AND HOLY WEEK**

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| **Holy Pascha**  
Agape Vespers 12 noon  
Easter Picnic 1:30 pm | Church Office Closed.  
Pascha Picnic Clean-Up  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 pm | Alcoholics Anonymous Men’s Meeting, 7 pm |

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**Great And Holy Week**

- **3 pm Anointing**
- **7 pm Anointing**
- **10 am St Basil Liturgy 11:30 am**
- Foot-washing 7 pm 12 Gospels
- **10 am Royal Hours 1-4 pm Church School Retreat 3 pm Un-nailing 7 pm The Praises**
- **10 am St Basil**
- **9 pm Canon**
- **9:30 pm Chrismations**
- **10 pm Resurrection**
DATED MATERIAL PLEASE RUSH DELIVERY

CHRIST IS RISEN!