



SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

THE REVEREND STEVEN P. ZORZOS, D.MIN., PROTOPRESBYTER & PRESIDING PRIEST
THE REVEREND DIMITRIOS J. LEE, M.DIV., PRESBYTER & ASSISTANT PRIEST



CHRIST, THE HOLY
WISDOM OF GOD

August 17, 2018

Saint Sophia GOYANS and GOYA Parents,

Welcome back to Sunday School and Saint Sophia Cathedral's Sunday School GOYA program! Sunday School teachers and youth advisors continue to work hand in hand as we look forward to a very active and productive year.

As per the Youth Ministries Guidelines of the Direct Archdiocesan District (D.A.D.) of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and the Metropolis of New Jersey, GOYA is for all Saint Sophia Sunday School students age 12 (as of September 1, 2018), and in the 7th grade, through age 18 (as of September 1, 2018), and still in high school. College students of any age are ineligible.

Our activities range from bowling to basketball to religious retreats. This year we will be helping out with JOY and Little Angels activities where GOYAN's will be able to earn community service hours. Also, throughout the year we will conduct other community service projects. The GOYA registration form is attached.

Each scheduled activity we do will need a parent volunteer to oversee the organization of the activity. You will be guiding the GOYA volunteers in the organization of the activity. If you have a particular interest, please let us know so that we can begin the planning process for that particular activity as soon as possible. If we do not have a parent volunteer for a particular activity, that activity will not be held.

Also, included with this letter is an information packet regarding basketball. We will be hosting a basketball tournament the weekend of October 27 – 28, 2018 and are looking forward to everyone's participation. There will be a dance on Saturday October 27th in association with the tournament, in which teens from many of the area churches will be attending.

Please remember GOYA is **not** just basketball. As you have just seen from the above we have many other activities, especially for those who do not play basketball.



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We will hold our first GOYA meeting on Sunday September 16, 2018 immediately after Sunday School. Please join us to meet everyone and hear about all of the wonderful things we are planning for this upcoming year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Christina Sardelis, GOYA advisor at 301-908-1221, csardelis@verizon.net.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Steven Zorzos
Presiding Priest

Christina Sardelis
Sunday School GOYA Advisor

Rev. Dimitrios Lee
Assistant Priest



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Basketball season is just around the corner, and it's time to announce the Saint Sophia Sunday School GOYA basketball program. The season will kick off on September 10, 2018 at 7:30 PM. Basketball practice is every Monday night, 7:30 PM, at Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd, Bethesda, MD 20817, except when Montgomery County Schools are closed.

Basketball is open to any Saint Sophia Sunday School student 12 yrs. of age by September 1, 2018 (and in 7th grade) through 18 yrs. of age by September 1, 2018 (and still in high school), as per the Archdiocese of America and Metropolis of New Jersey youth ministry guidelines. College students of any age are ineligible.

On the first day of practice please bring the following items:

- Three Page Registration Packet (*enclosed*)
- \$25 GOYA Membership Dues
- \$30 Uniform Fee (*Only for new players*)
- Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians (*enclosed*)

In order to fully participate in the Basketball team, all players are required to:

- Enroll in the 2018/2019 Sunday School program at Saint Sophia Cathedral
- Participate in Divine Liturgies, Sunday School, and/or Altar Duty
- Attend all practices (If there is a valid excuse, the player or parent must contact one of the coaches)
- Attend tournaments
- Volunteer at GOYA events and other Saint Sophia functions
- Pay the designated registration fee for each tournament (Includes all meals for tournament weekends)
- Participate in regular GOYA events and outings

Coaches will be taking attendance at practices, tournaments, events, and Sunday School.

Attendance will have a direct impact on playing time on the court!

The teams participate in approximately 8 tournaments throughout the year. The schedule generally begins in September and ends in May, excluding the Lenten season. There will be at least one overnight tournament that requires team players to stay in a hotel. Player transportation to the away tournament is by chartered bus.



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The Saint Sophia tournament will be held on the weekend of October 27 – 28, 2018. Basketball games will be played at St. Albans and all meals, activities and dance are held in the Saint Sophia auditorium. Volunteers are necessary to make this a success! All Sunday School students, regardless of whether they play basketball are invited to participate in all tournament activities.

We are all looking forward to a great and exciting new season! Saint Sophia Basketball has a tradition of excellence and we will carry on that tradition this year. The teams and coaches will be working hard to compete in a spirit of healthy competition and Christ-like love.

In Christ,

Rev, Steven Zorzos
Presiding Priest

Rev. Dimitrios Lee
Assistant Priest

George Wallace
Head Basketball Coach
301-980-9418
governorgw@gmail.com

Lia Psillos
Girls Basketball Coach
lpsillos303@gmail.com

Evan Gaganis
Boys Coach
egaganis@yahoo.com

Maria George
Girls Basketball Coach
Mgeorge430@gmail.com



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The following is the proposed calendar for 2018-2019 Saint Sophia Sunday School GOYA Activities. There will be updates and modifications as new information presents itself. All suggestions and recommendations are welcome. This program is open to all Sunday school teenagers, ages 12 to 18. It is not just a basketball program. It is a chance for all Saint Sophia Sunday School students to participate and get to know one another.

- September 9, 2018 First day of Sunday school
- September 10, 2018 First Basketball Practice
- September 16, 2018 Welcome back to Sunday School Picnic
- October 7, 2018 Annual Hay Ride Butler's Orchard (tentative)
- October 13-14, 2018 Saint George's Tournament
- October 27 – 28, 2018 Saint Sophia's basketball tournament***
- November 3-4, 2018 Saint Katherine's Tournament
- November 17-18, 2018 Annunciation's Tournament
- December 15, 2018 Christmas Retreat
- January 5 or 12, 2018 Ice Skating with Little Angels/Joy*
- January 26-27 Kimisis (Brooklyn) Tournament (tentative)
- February 16-17 Wilmington, DE Tournament (tentative)
- March 2018 Activity - TBD (Pasta Bar Lenten Movie?)
- April 20, 2018 Saturday of Lazarus – Family Communion
- April 20, 2018 Set- up and cooking for Plaki luncheon
- April 21, 2018 Plaki luncheon
- April 28, 2018 Easter
- May End of year Basketball party date TBD
- May 13, 2018 Last Day of Sunday School
- May 18 - 20, 2018 Festival



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