



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

Dearest Parishioner

August 27, 2018

The threefold mission of our Sunday School program is as follows: 1) to educate our children spiritually and morally, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the faith traditions of the Greek Orthodox Church; 2) to develop in our children the habit of regular church attendance, Scriptural study, and conscientious participation in the worship and sacramental life of our Church; 3) to cultivate in our children a Greek Orthodox conscience and devotion to our Orthodox Christian ideals and to prepare them to become faithful, devoted, and dynamic members of our Church, our community, and our country. We have faithfully committed ourselves to fulfilling this mission to the best of our ability, and we now have the opportunity to improve upon our present practice and enter into a new era for our Sunday School. In the past, we have tried various ways to provide a fuller worship experience, none of which have been fully satisfactory. We now believe that we have a more fulfilling solution, one which will provide both a more complete liturgical and classroom experience and, most significantly, will bring us all together, students and teachers, as one Body in Christ.

Beginning on September 9, 2018, the first Sunday of Sunday School and continuing every Sunday until May 5, 2019, the last Sunday of catechetical instruction, ALL Sunday School students will attend a "Sunday School Liturgy" in the Frosene Ballroom and then proceed to class at its conclusion. Sunday School will continue to start at 10:00 and students will report directly to the ballroom. At 10:15, a full, interactive, spoken Liturgy will be celebrated. The Liturgy will finish promptly at 11:00. Students will then proceed to their classrooms for 45 minutes of instruction until approximately 11:50.

In order for our students to attend a full, chanted Liturgy in the Cathedral proper, on the first Sunday of each month beginning in October and continuing through April, either the entire lower school or entire upper school will fill the first rows of the Nave. On Sunday, May 12, all Sunday School students will be in the Cathedral for Graduation Sunday, Altar Boy Acknowledgement, and Teacher Recognition. Teen Talk and Faith Time will continue to be woven into the program during classroom time; Face Time with Father will no longer take place every Sunday but rather on an occasional basis. At some point, hymnology will also be incorporated into classroom time.

We pray you will embrace this important change and make a heartfelt effort to arrive every Sunday promptly at 10:00 AM so that your children can participate in the Sunday School Liturgy followed by the appropriate religious instruction. Our teachers are eager to recommit themselves to their calling and fully embrace and share their love of Christ with the children and young people of our community. With your prayers and support, we look forward to a spiritually successful, fruitful and meaningful new school year.

The Clergy

The Academic Deans