

October 10, 2013

Dear Reverend Fathers and Youth Advisors:

We invite you and your junior and senior high age young people (grades 6 to 12) to participate this year in our annual Southern California Bible and Church History Tournament! Our young people in the Southland love this tournament--they enjoy learning about the Scriptures and our Church as well as meeting other Orthodox young people from different parishes of our various jurisdictions. The day includes games, activities, lunch, the presentation of trophies to the winning teams, and concludes with the Service of the Ninth Hour. This year our tournament is scheduled to take place at Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Los Angeles on Saturday, December 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We thank our host pastor, Fr. John Bakas, and his assistant priest, Fr. Allan Boyd and all of Saint Sophia Cathedral parish for their kindness and hospitality.

Enclosed are the rules and regulations--please read these over carefully. Also enclosed are the flyer and the COMPLETE TEXTS for our Bible and Church History Tournament this year. The texts include: 1) Psalm 138 (139); 2) Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 7; 3) Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 13; 4) I Corinthians Chapter 6; 5) St. Peter's 2nd Epistle, Chapter 1; 6) St. Theodora of Alexandria; 7) St. Menodora, St. Nymphodora, and St. Metrodora; 8) St Ahmed the Calligrapher; 9) The Holy Hieromartyr Eleutherius; 10) Excerpt from the "Historical Note" of the book, Silent as a Stone: Mother Maria of Paris and the Trash Can Rescue by Jim Forest; 11) "Baptism" from Fr. Thomas Hopko, "The Orthodox Faith: An Elementary Handbook on the Orthodox Church--Volume 2: Worship--The Sacraments;" 12) "Chrismation" from Fr. Thomas Hopko, "The Orthodox Faith: An Elementary Handbook on the Orthodox Church--Volume 2: Worship--The Sacraments;" 13) "Icons" From Fr. Thomas Hopko, "The Orthodox Faith: An Elementary Handbook on the Orthodox Church--Volume 2: Worship--The Church Building". There is a total of five two-sided sheets--10 pages total. Please make photocopies of these texts so that each of your young people receives a complete set for study purposes.

Please complete the team registration forms--please make copies so you have one for each team. Although you may not have more than 4 people on team, you may have fewer than 4 people on a team (you can have a 3-person team or a 2-person team or theoretically even a 1-person team!). The registration fee this year is \$35 per team and must be included with the registration form. This covers our costs for lunch, materials, and trophies. You may return the registration forms and fee to Dean Langis c/o St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church at 4949 Alton Pkwy, Irvine, CA 92604-8606. Please return the registration forms and fees to St. Paul's as soon as possible so that we may know how many to prepare lunch for. For directions to Saint Sophia's please see the map below or go to www.mapquest.com or call Saint Sophia Cathedral at 323-737-2424.

Please encourage all your young people to participate--they will enjoy learning these wonderful texts as well as having fellowship with the other Orthodox young people from our various parishes. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the following tournament organizers/advisors:

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| Father Norman Kosanovich | St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral | (626) 284-9100 |
| Father Haralamobos Fox | St. John's Greek Orthodox Church | (714) 827-0181 |
| Khouria Elaine Manneh | St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church | (714) 202-5015 |
| Christina Hanna | Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral | (323) 737-2424 |
| Dean Peratsakis | Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral | (323) 737-2424 |
| Dean Langis | St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church | (949) 733-2366 |

We are looking forward to seeing you and your youth on December 8th!

Respectfully yours,

Dean Langis
Pastoral Assistant at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church

Directions to: Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1324 S. Normandie Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90006-4310
323-737-2424

From the 10 Freeway:

Exit onto Normandie Avenue going north.

Go 0.6 mile to Saint Sophia Cathedral which will be on your right/east side.