

September 17, 2015

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 junior division is for grades 6 to 8, and our senior division is for grades 9 to 12. 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 St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Upland on Saturday, December 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We thank our host pastor and his wife, Fr. George and Khouria Elaine Manneh, and all of St. George's parish for their kindness and hospitality.

Attached are the rules and regulations--please read these over carefully. Also attached are the registration form and the flyer and the COMPLETE TEXTS for our Bible and Church History Tournament this year. The texts include: 1) St. Matthew 5; 2) Romans 1; 3) Romans 12; 4) Ephesians 5; 5) St. George, the Holy and Great Martyr; 6) The Martyrs Adrian and Natalia of Nicomedia; 7) The Life of St. Mardarije of Libertyville; 8) The Life of St. Sebastian of Jackson; 9) "Marriage" from "The Sacramental Life of the Orthodox Church" by Fr. Alciviadis Calivas in A Companion to the Greek Orthodox Church with an addendum by the 2007 Bible and Church History Tournament Committee; 10) The Church and Ecological Problems; 11) "Marriage: The Great Sacrament" by Archimandrite Aimilianos of Simonopetra, Mount Athos. There is a total of six two-sided sheets--12 pages total. Please make photocopies of these texts so that each of your young people receives a complete set for study purposes. You should shortly be able to access the flyer, registration form, rules and regulations form and all the texts at our Bible Bowl website at <http://www.socalbiblebowl.org/> ; we sincerely thank Mr. Dean Tripodes for setting up and maintaining our Bible Bowl website!

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, or you may bring them with you on the day of the tournament. 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 St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church please see the map below or go to www.mapquest.com or call St. George's at 909-985-6844.

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:

Father Alexander Federoff St. John of Damascus OCA Church (858) 674-1931
Father Norman Kosanovich St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral (626) 284-9100
Khouria Elaine Manneh St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church (714) 202-5015
Christina Hanna St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral (323) 737-2424
Dean Peratsakis St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral (323) 737-2424
Evan Karantonis Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (562) 494-8929
Dr. Ananias Sorem St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church (714) 776-1972
Christian Siskos St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church (949) 733-2366
Dean Langis St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church (949) 733-2366

We are looking forward to seeing you and your youth on December 5th!

Respectfully yours,

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

Church

Directions to: St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church
2098 N. Benson Ave.
Upland, CA 91784-7941
909-985-6844

From the 210 Freeway:

Exit onto Mountain Avenue going north (towards mountains);

Go about one block to 21st St./Benson Avenue and turn left (going west);

The Church is about 100 feet on the left side of the street.

(Please note that 21st Street turns into Benson Avenue as soon as you turn left from Mountain Avenue!)