

October 3, 2018

Dear Reverend Fathers, Church School Directors, Youth Advisors, and Parents of our 6th through 12th graders:

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 on Saturday, December 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. John's Greek Orthodox Church 405 N Dale Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801; 714-827-0181; <http://www.stjohnanaheim.org/>. We thank the pastor of St. John's, Fr. John Kariotakis; and the assistant pastor of St. John's, Fr. Constantine Trumpower;, and all of St. John's parishioners for their kindness and hospitality. We are hoping this year to have a special treat at the end of the Bible Bowl: a Pan-Orthodox Youth Choir Concert from perhaps 2:15 pm to 3:00 pm under the direction of Jonathan Braun, the pastoral assistant at St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral.

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) Genesis, Chapter 1; 2) III Kingdoms, Chapter 19; 3) Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 7; 4) Gospel of St. John, Chapter 14; 5) I Corinthians, Chapter 12; 6) Philemon; 8) Greatmartyr Euphemia the All-praised--Commemorated on September 16; 9) Greatmartyr Euphemia the All-praised--Commemorated on September 16; 10) Mother Alexandra; 11) "The Fourth Ecumenical Council" from Fr. Thomas Hopko, "The Orthodox Faith: An Elementary Handbook on the Orthodox Church--Volume 3: Church History—Fifth Century." 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. You should soon 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 may have a separate registration form for each of your team(s). Although you may not have more than 4 people on a 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(s). 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. John's Greek Orthodox Cathedral you may go to <https://www.mapquest.com/directions> or to <https://maps.google.com/> or you may call St. Steven's at 626-284-9100.

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 Norman Kosanovich--St. Steven's Serbian Orthodox Cathedral in Alhambra--[fnorman@saintstevens.org](mailto:fnorman@saintstevens.org)

Father Constantine Trumpower--St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim--[frconstantine@stjohnanaheim.org](mailto:frconstantine@stjohnanaheim.org)

Khouria Elaine Manneh--St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Temecula--[emanneh@hotmail.com](mailto:emanneh@hotmail.com)

Dean Langis--St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church--[dlangis@stpaulsirvine.org](mailto:dlangis@stpaulsirvine.org)

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