

October 9, 2019

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 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at 41132 Guava St. Murrieta, CA 92562; 951-296- 6207; <http://stnicholastemecula.org>. We thank the pastor of St. Nicholas', Fr. Andrew Lesko, and also all of the parishioners at St. Nicholas' for their kindness and hospitality for hosting the Bible Bowl this year.

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. Micah 4:1-5:4; 2) Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 7; 3) Gospel of St. John, Chapter 17; 4) I Corinthians, Chapter 6; 5) St. Peter's 2nd Epistle, Chapter 1; 6) St. Barbara the Great-Martyr; 7) St. Sava the Sanctified; 8) Macarius the Great of Egypt; 9) Mark, Archbishop of Ephesus; 10) St. Maximus the Confessor; 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) "Marriage" from "The Sacramental Life of the Orthodox Church" by Fr. Alciviadis C. Calivas in "A Companion to the Greek Orthodox Church." 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. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Murrieta you may go to <https://www.mapquest.com/directions> or to <https://maps.google.com> or you may call St. Nicholas' Church at 951-296-6207.

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

Father Constantine Trumpower -- St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim -- frconstantine@stjohnanaheim.org

Khouria Elaine Manneh -- St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Temecula -- emanneh@hotmail.com

Dean Langis -- St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church -- dlangis@stpaulsirvine.org

We are looking forward to seeing you and your youth on December 7th!

Respectfully yours,

Dean Langis

Pastoral Assistant at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church