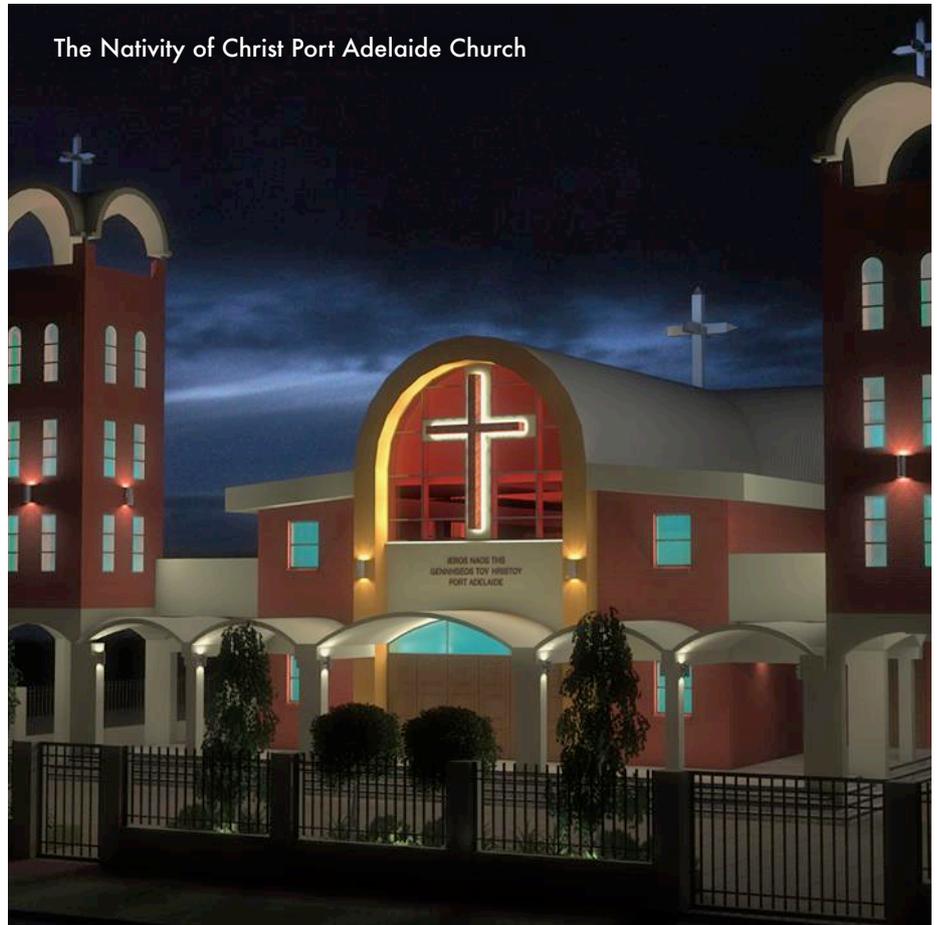


GOYPA

GREEK
ORTHODOX
YOUTH OF
PORT
ADELAIDE

The Nativity of Christ Port Adelaide Church



FAITH. HOPE. PEACE. VICTORY.

We are a Greek Orthodox Youth Group (GOYPA) that aspires to keep our heritage, culture and traditions of our community alive. By embracing our faith in our daily lives we aim to spark the passion of community and religion into our youth. Through social connections we bring everyone together by celebrating our ethnicity. We aim to leave a legacy by being mentors and educators for future generations to come.

Each generation plays an integral part in our community. GOYPA interacts with all ages starting from the youngest at 5 years old. Our focus is to provide each age level with appropriate events and activities to foster the growth of our community as well as our youth. In saying this, we have introduced three age level categories; 5-11,

12-15, and 16+ years of age. Future events such as bowling nights, movie nights, soccer nights, and disco nights will all be included in our calendar year. Being a part of the Greek Orthodox Community of Port Adelaide we will work closely, together with Reverend Father John Choraitis to help all ages gain a better understanding of our faith. We envision achieving so by organising English services, Q & A nights, and cooking classes (such as Easter preparations).

For more information and to keep updated with all GOYPA events visit our Facebook page. We will also be a part of the 2014 Semaphore Greek Cultural Festival, please come by and say hello and support our local community.

The logo of our youth group depicts a 'cross anchor' with a single olive branch spread across in front that was created to represent all the elements of our community and church. Each element has its own meaning behind them, which we were drawn to including as a part of our logo. The anchor symbolizes the port, which includes our Port Adelaide community; the top part of the anchor that is shaped like a cross symbolizes hope and faith, and the olive branch is a symbol of peace and victory. All together, the symbols were included in our mission statement in order to express what we as a youth group stand for.



G.O.Y.P.A



January 2014 whats on...

12

Blessing of the Water

18 & 19

Semaphore Greek Cultural Festival

26

Australia Day

17

Saint Anthony the Great

20

Efthimios the Great

27

Australia Day public holiday

18

Saint Athanasios & Cyril

25

Saint Gregory the Theologian

Saint Sophia and Her Three Daughters

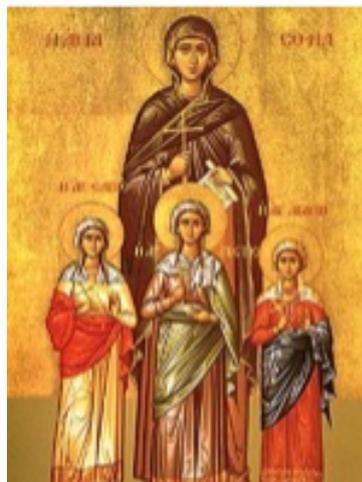
The patron saint of choice for our youth group is the Holy Martyr Sophia and her three daughters Faith, Hope, and Love. These are important saints to our youth group, as we feel they represent what we stand for by bringing together the three names of Saint Sophia's daughters; which are included in our official statement.

The Holy Martyrs Saint Sophia and her Daughters Faith, Hope and Love were born in Italy and named after three Christian virtues. Faith was twelve, Hope was ten, and Love was nine. St Sophia raised them in the love of the Lord Jesus Christ, in which they did not hide their faith in Christ, but openly confessed it before everyone.

The young girls were denounced them to the emperor Hadrian, who ordered that they be brought to Rome. Realizing that they would be taken before the emperor, the holy sisters prayed fervently to the Lord Jesus Christ, asking that He give them the strength not to fear torture and death. Then the emperor ordered them to be tortured. They burned the young girls over an iron grating, then threw them into a red-hot oven, and finally into a cauldron with boiling tar, but the Lord preserved them.

They subjected St Sophia to another grievous torture: the mother was forced to watch the suffering of her daughters. She displayed adamant courage, and urged her daughters to endure their torments for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. All three maidens were beheaded, and joyfully bent their necks beneath the sword.

In order to intensify St Sophia's inner suffering, the emperor permitted her to take the bodies of her daughters. She placed their remains in coffins and loaded them on a wagon to be buried on a high hill. St Sophia sat by her daughter's graves for three days, and finally she gave up her soul to the Lord. Even though she did not suffer for Christ in the flesh, she was not deprived of a martyr's crown. Instead, she suffered in her heart. Believers buried her body there beside her daughters.



Theophany (Epiphany)

The Feast of our Holy Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on January 6. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ in the river Jordan by John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus, and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity.

At the Baptism of Christ, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—were made manifest. Thus, the name of the Feast is Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God.

The Blessing of the Water is conducted by a priest near open bodies of water such as rivers or beaches. Holy water is then poured into the body of water, then the throwing of the cross to be retrieved by divers. Holy water from the church is given to the faithful to consume and to use in blessing their homes. In the weeks following the Feast, a priest will visit your homes and conducts a service of blessing with the holy water that was blessed on the Feast of Theophany.



GOYPA SOCIAL

An aim in our youth group is to have better interactions with the youth of Port Adelaide, as well as other church communities, in order to build the foundation for future generations. One way in which we hope this can be achieved is through social events organised by our committee. Since this youth group has been formed, we have planned two events to bring together the youth of our community, as well as having a better relationship with the other churches in Adelaide, such as the English Vesper Service and the Soccer Night. In the New Year, we are planning to hold larger events to bring in bigger crowd and spread the word of God to our youth.

Youth Conference

On September 29th, five representatives, along with Father John, set off to Brisbane to attend the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia 10th National Youth Conference. Representing the

youth of the Port Adelaide Church included Chris Asanopoulos, Nick Konitsis, Victoria Sotiropoulos, Natasha Kerton and Mary-Ann Iliou. During the 3 days, they took part in Church services, workshops and were privileged to listen to Presvytera Dr Thekla Kokkinos deliver a speech on 'The terminology and psychology of socio-political developments in the contemporary world'. The evenings were laid back allowing everyone to have the opportunity to meet and socialise, whilst enjoying our Greek culture. On the last day of the conference, everyone was fortunate enough to go to Bribie Island Retreat & Recreation Centre for the official blessing and opening of the event. This was an eventful way to end an informative and enjoyable experience, in which we were able to have a better understanding of the role of the Greek Orthodox youth of Australia.

February

Don't forget these dates....

February 7th 2014

Club Kappa, Krystal Function Centre

February 8th & 9th 2014

Carnevale Italian Festival

February 10th 2014

Saint Haralambos

February 14th to 16th 2014

Adelaide Fringe Festival

February 15th 2014

Unley Greek Festival
Oxford Terrace Unley

February 17th 2014

Saint Theodore of Tyron

February 22nd 2014

Saturday of the Souls

Norwood Greek Festival,
Beulah Road, Norwood

February 27th to 2nd March
2014

Clipsal 500 Adelaide

February 28th to 16th March
2014

Adelaide Festival

Did you know...?

The Nativity of Christ, Church of Port Adelaide was the first hold The Blessing of the Waters in Adelaide.

March

March 3rd
Great Lent Begins

March 25th
Annunciation of the
Theotokos

March 28th
The WOGBOYS Live

March 16th
Fringe ends

March 25th
Greek Independence Day

English Vesper Service

In November 2013, the Archdiocese held an English vesper service at the Nativity of Christ Port Adelaide Church for the first time. Families of our community and members of other youth groups around Adelaide attended, and were able to meet and socialise amongst each other. At the end of the service, everyone was invited next door to the Krystal Function Centre where committee members of the Port Adelaide Church provided a barbeque and the Ladies Auxiliary made their famous loukoumathes. This was a wonderful opportunity for the youth to have a better understanding of an Orthodox liturgy, as well building relationships with members of different youth groups to exchange contacts and ideas for future events.

Soccer Night

On the 6th of December 2013, GOYPA held our first fundraiser being a soccer night cheering on Adelaide United against Brisbane Roar. A spread was put on for those who attended, including pita bread with dips, followed by pizza, which was enjoyable through the entire match. It was a successful first social event for GOYPA, as we were able to catch up and socialise

and raise funds for our Church.

Semaphore Greek Cultural Festival

The Semaphore Greek Festival is fast approaching and GOYPA are very excited to announce that we will be having our own tent selling a variety of Greek merchandise. This will include a range of traditional religious accessories, komboloi (worry beads), Greek flags and Icons. Registration forms will be provided for those who are interested in joining GOYPA and meeting the youth of our community. Our merchandise will be situated next the Port Adelaide Greek School tent, so make sure you come down, grab a bite and embrace the Greek culture. It sure is a weekend not to miss!



The Nativity of Christ, Port Adelaide

The Nativity of Christ is an Orthodox Church under the spiritual and ecclesiastical leadership of His Eminence Archbishop Stylianos of the Greek orthodox Archdiocese of Australia within the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical patriarchate of Constantinople.

Sunday services begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at approximately 11:00 a.m.

The Greek Community at Port Adelaide and environs was formally established in 1959 with the first Saturday morning Greek school operational in 1960. It attracted a handful of young Greek Australians who were provided with the opportunity to learn, study and expand their knowledge of the Greek language and associated customs their 'migrant parents' deemed important to 'pass on' in their new country. The Port Adelaide Greek school has flourished over time and with significant 'family volunteer support' classes starting from Reception to Year 12 through our current SACE system have been maintained.

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