

Youth Ministry Reminders & Upcoming Events

Metropolis of New Jersey

First, we have updated GOYA guidelines as of this year. Those can be found here:
<https://www.goarch.org/-/youth-ministry-guidelines>

- HOPE
- JOY
- GOYA
- YAL

If there are regional events or parish events that are open to other parishes, please share the details with me so I can share the information with other parishes.

Youth Safety

- Each proistamenos is responsible for ensuring the Parish Youth Safety Administrator is monitoring everyone's status. Please make sure that any new advisors, Greek School or Sunday School teachers are up to date!
- Evelyn Tsugranis is here to support us by training PYSAs and to support them if they need help. Her email is: etsugranis@nj.goarch.org
- Reminder for Pennsylvania parishes: there are additional requirements for youth workers (including clergy) required by law. For those PA parishes, I can resend these details to you.

Upcoming events

Various ages

Ecumenical Patriarch Poster Contest

- For ages 5-18
- Submissions due by October 1
- For details please see: <https://archons.org/2026postercontest/>

Music & Dance Festival - Get excited!

- Youth & Young Adults
- February 12-14, 2027

- Philadelphia, PA

Camp Good Shepherd - SAVE THE DATES!

- July 4-10 - Virginia
- July 11-17 - Maryland
- July 18-24 - New Jersey

New Sunday School curriculum is here!

- <https://www.goarch.org/sundayschool>
- If you or your Sunday School teachers have any questions or need support, please let me know and I'll see what I can do to support you.

GOYA

Holy Cross Celebration

- September 20
- St George, Ocean Twp, NJ

GOYA Games

- October 10
- Baltimore, MD – Volos Sports beginning at 10am
- \$40 through Oct 1; \$50 after Oct 1; \$60 day of registration. [Register here.](#)
- Includes T-Shirt, breakfast, lunch, and ice cream

2026 Greek Cup basketball tournament

- New York City
- Columbus Day Weekend, October 9–12, 2026
- both boys' and girls' divisions
- For questions: commissioner@dadgobl.com

CGS Fall Retreat

- November 13-15
- Camp Innabah, Spring City, PA
- Registration opens September 20th

Sights & Sounds

- Northern NJ – March 6, 2027
- Delaware Valley – April 17, 2027

CGS Lenten Retreat

- April 9-11, 2027
- Camp Piankatank, Hartfield, VA

Young Adults

Orthodox Young Adults Retreat

- October 9-11
- "Following Christ Offline: Encountering Orthodox in Community"
- Bergenfield, New Jersey
- Registration: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/young-adult-retreat-6>

YAL Conference – New York City

- October 9-12
- Ages 18-35
- Registration: <https://events.livemazi.com/e/archdistyal2026>

More and more parishes now have new YAL chapters. As your parish forms a new YAL, or if your YAL has new leadership, please share those details with me so I can be a support to them.

Dates TBD:

- Three Hierarchs celebrations
- Acolyte retreats
- Oratorical Festival
 - Districts
 - Delaware Valley
 - Maryland
 - Virginia
 - Northern NJ
 - Metropolis
- Walking with Christ