

**St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine  
41 St. George Street  
St. Augustine, FL 32084**

Press Release  
August 30, 2018

**Ecclesiastical Services at St. Photios on Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

The public is invited to attend ecclesiastical services in the Chapel of St. Photios on Tuesday, September 11. Father Joseph Samaan will begin the services at 9:30 a.m. This is the feast day of several saints including the holy martyrs Euphrosynos the Cook, Theodora, the martyr of Alexandria, Sergius and Valaam of Finland.

A memorial service with the traditional wheat offering of kolyva will then celebrate the memories of all those who died during the tragedies that transpired on September 11, 2001. May their memory be eternal.

The blessing of the water or 'agiasmos' will then be held in honor of the Church New Year, the beginning of the Indiction. To the present day, the Church has celebrated the beginning of the New Year on September 1. This was the custom in Constantinople until its fall in 1453 and in Russia until the reign of Peter I. September 1 is still festively celebrated as the New Year at the Patriarchate of Constantinople; among the Jews also the New Year, although reckoned according to a moveable calendar, usually falls in September.

St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine is located on 41 St. George Street in St. Augustine. Father Joseph serves the parish of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Daytona Beach, FL.

Polexeni Maouris Hillier, Executive Director

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