2025
St. Barbara
Parish Council

Phyllis Ann Chuleas Matiosian
President



I started my church journey in Flint Michigan at the Assumption GOC, Starting with a brief time as a pre-school teacher.

I joined the choir and AHEPA's Maids of Athena (a Christian Hellenic fraternal organization) then when I became of age moved on to the Daughters of Penelope.

I moved the Los Angeles in 1979 and joined St Sophia cathedral.

I moved to Santa Barbara 1997 and joined St. Barbara's GOC and was a pre school teacher and joined the choir, Philoptochos and local chapter of Daughters of Penelope of which I have been the president for the last 8 years. I also joined the parish council in 2019, currently serving as the president.

Being on the Parish Council since 2019 my eyes have been opened to what it takes to run the church, to keep it going for our future generations. We as a group try to address not only the monetary needs but also the spiritual needs of our parishioners. I have always felt the comfort of our Lord being inside our beautiful church and wish to inspire others to feel the same love.

Tom Poulos
Vice-President



I was born in Santa Barbara and raised in Carpinteria. I graduated Carpinteria High School in 1981. I then attended Ventura City College, going through a two-year welding technology program. I went on to work in various industries. Structural steel, offshore oil, pier construction, among others. In 1988 I joined Montecito Fire Protection District, where I worked as a fireman for 30 years.

My wife Isabel and I have been married for 31 years. We have two children Nicole and Steve. St. Barbara has been in my life from the beginning.

I was baptized, married, and baptized our kids in St. Barbara. As a youth I was involved as an altar boy, sports tournaments, youth conferences, GOYA activities, and the dance group. I have served on the Parish Council since 2019. These experiences and involvement have had a core influence on my life.

Marina Vogel
Treasurer



Marina Vogel grew up in St Louis, MO and Louisville, KY, and moved to Santa Barbara in 1983. She earned a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Princeton, and a Master's in Computer Science from UCSB. Overall, she spent nearly 40 years in industry as an aeronautical engineer, computer scientist, and program manager. Her professional career spanned work in both commercial and defense-related corporations, including work on the space program!

Marina was thrilled to find a new spiritual home at St Barbara soon after she moved to town, where she first felt true Christian fellowship and a shared desire to truly serve the community. And she and her sons, Ben and Eric Cappello, finally joined the Greek Orthodox faith and our parish in November 1998.

Marina had wanted to serve at a higher level, and was deeply honored to be able to join the St Barbara Parish Council; she has now been a member for over 10 years, and was humbled to be called to serve as its Treasurer, which she accepted when she retired in March 2020.

Marina is a proud member of both Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope, and she was overjoyed to be a part of our wonderful choir for many years, where she took over for Vivian Pahos, of blessed memory. She also served for 4 years as a GOYA leader with both her beloved godfather Bill Pertsulakes of eternal memory, and Lana Marme Philips, and she continues to promote youth involvement though our ongoing Youth Stewardship Program, which she founded, based on inputs from the Archdiocese stewardship team.

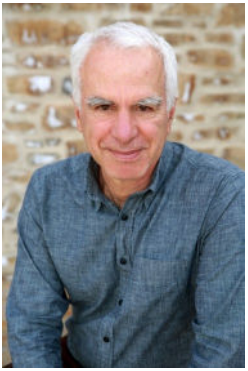
Marina also continues to serve as a long-time member of our Missions/Mission Tanzania committee, and she is also a board member of its corollary secular non-profit organization, Africa Water and Life Project (AWALP).

Afrula Fields
Secretary



Born in Greece and moved to Southern California in 1958. In addition to raising 3 children (1 set of twins), 16-year tenure teaching Sunday School at St. Nicholas Church in Northridge and Folk Dance Costume seamstress. 4-year office assistant to Fr. Kezios and his book production company (Narthex Press). Retired with husband Dino to Carpinteria 9 years ago and joined Parish Council in 2018 and is an active member of Philoptochos.

Minos Athanassiadis



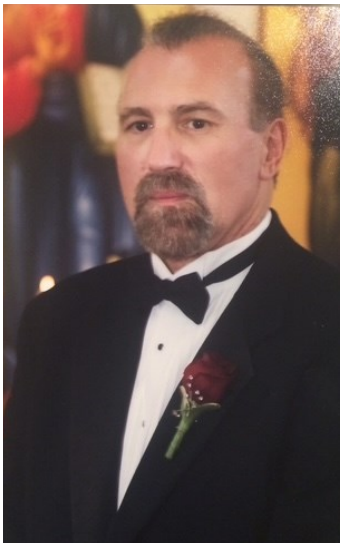
Minos Athanassiadis was born in Athens, Greece, and moved with his parents to Fresno, California, at the age of 12. He graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Agricultural Economics, followed by graduate studies at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Throughout his career, Minos has held senior leadership positions in both production agriculture companies and agricultural technology firms.

Minos has been married to Tracey for over 35 years, and together they have raised three children—Sofia, Lucas, and Nico. They made their home in the Malibu area before relocating to Santa Barbara in 2014, where they became members of St. Barbara Church. Minos has been a member of the St. Barbara chapter of AHEPA, serving as its President for the past six years. He has also served on the Parish Council since 2020 and played a key role in organizing the church's annual Christmas Concert under the Byzantine Dome.

In addition to serving on several corporate boards, Minos is a member of the Advisory Council for the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture at UCLA, supporting the promotion of Greek heritage and scholarship.

John P. Demourkas

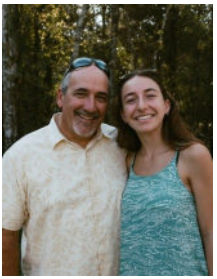


Born and raised in Santa Barbara, I have a deep-rooted connection to our church community. I was baptized at our church on Castillo Street, served in the altar, and attended Greek school. I was actively involved in GOYA and even founded the Son of Pericles. Later, I joined the AHEPA. I had the honor of getting married in this church, which holds a special place in my heart.

Growing up, I played football at San Marcos High School and Santa Barbara City College. In the early 2000s, I became a parish council member and now oversee the church kitchen. I've spent 25 years driving semi-trucks and have worked in my family's business. I am also a proud member of the Rancheros Visitadores.

This church is a significant part of my life. My grandparents helped build the first church in Santa Barbara, and today, I am dedicated to helping preserve and strengthen our church for future generations.

George Fakinos



It is with great pride and love that I refer to our parish here at Saint Barbara as "family." It is that same heartfelt love for Christ that keeps me balanced and at peace. I can't think of a better place to worship than here with all of you.

In 1955, my father, Frangiskos Georgiou Fakinos, immigrated to the US from a small mountain top village on the island of Naxos. He married my mother, Ann-Elizabeth, while she was attending UCLA, and they settled in Venice Beach, California. As a result, I started worshipping where I was baptized at Saint Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles. What a blessing to have been raised with the Love of Christ and the grandeur of the Greek Orthodox Church.

I moved to Santa Barbara in 1984 to attend UCSB and knew immediately I never wanted to live anywhere else. To learn that Saint Barbara had been built just up the hill was an added bonus. I had to come visit. Like most visitors, I was in awe of its beauty and moving spiritual draw. I was being beckoned.

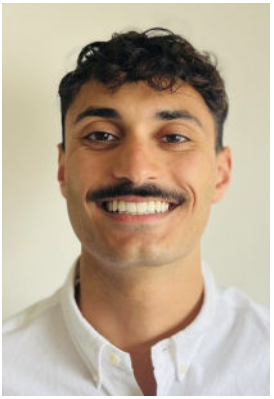
Even as a young student, I started imagining being married and bringing my children here to worship. With God's Grace, 17 years later, my daughter Sara Flora was baptized here, starting her own spiritual journey. To see her develop compassion and love towards her fellow human beings almost brings me to tears. Raising a family in the church and experiencing the love of Christ with all of you, prompted me to want to do more. However, having a second career as a baseball umpire, I could not always be at church on Sunday. As a result, I accepted the nomination of Alex Haimanis to be on our Parish Council.

I have enjoyed this wonderful opportunity since 2020 which has allowed me to reciprocate the Love of Christ towards our spiritual family.

I look forward to all your hugs and hope to make Saint Barbara a home for all our generations to come. Let's reach out to others and invite them to worship here whenever we can. I'd be remiss if I didn't thank Bill Poulis who gave me my first personal invitation to attend Saint Barbara.

Of course, we met in a solstice party food line.

William Jaber



William Jaber is a recent UC Santa Barbara graduate and is currently applying to medical school. He transferred from Chabot College, where he played baseball, to UCSB three years ago. Born and raised in San Ramon, CA, in the Bay Area, William has been attending Saint Barbara's for over a year. Saint Barbara's has been pivotal in his journey toward Christ, and he sees serving on the parish council as a way to give back to the parish. His hope is that while the church sits in one of the most beautiful locations in the area, visitors will find themselves returning for the beauty of the liturgy. As a younger member of the council, William hopes to be a source of encouragement and a point of connection for younger parishioners and inquirers of the faith.

Georgia Korbakis Mously



I grew up in Los Angeles and have been a longstanding member of St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral, where my father served on the parish council for many years. I remember going to meetings with him at a young age and doing my homework while waiting for him to finish. When I moved to Chicago for medical school, I belonged to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and, even though I didn't have much free time as a student, I still enjoyed volunteering at Greek festivals and participating in church activities whenever I could. I am so happy my career brought me to Santa Barbara as a neuro-intensivist at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and can now call St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church my home parish. I wish to serve on the parish council to support this beautiful church and its mission of becoming one in Christ. I hope to baptize my children here and look forward to bringing them to parish council meetings with me one day. I want to provide them, and the next generation, with the same strong foundation in faith that I had growing up and vow to bring my energy and enthusiasm to the parish council to ensure this church and community are here for many years to come.

Mary Papador Mendoza

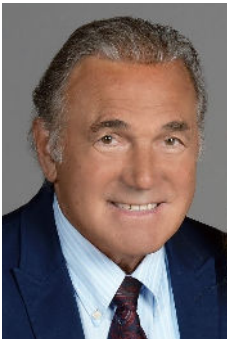


I joined St. Barbara Parish in 1973 when my family moved to Santa Barbara. I was 18 at the time and spent the next several years attending college, ultimately earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. I began my career in the Aerospace industry and later went on to receive a Master of Science in Systems Management from USC. Over the course of more than forty exciting years, I worked in Business Development, introducing new and innovative technologies across both the commercial and government sectors.

Throughout my career, I remained actively involved in the church community, dedicating time to the Greek Festival, Philoptochos, and various church fundraisers. Serving on the St. Barbara Parish Council has been one of the meaningful ways I've been able to give back to the parish I love and cherish so deeply.

On a personal note, my family—my husband Richard Mendoza, our daughter Alexis Mendoza, and now our granddaughter Frankie Jane—are all proud and loving members of the St. Barbara Parish.

William Poulis



I was born and raised in Clinton, Mass, of first generation Greek parents. I was baptized at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and when old enough, I became an altar boy until we moved to California. In 1953, while attending my first year of high school, my family, consisting of my parents and sister and brother, moved to Southern CA where I attended high school till my senior year and in November of 1956 we moved to Santa Barbara.

I graduated Santa Barbara High School in 1957 and attended college eventually graduating from UCSB in 1962.

In the fall of 1963 I enrolled at Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, from which I graduated in 1966.

After working in Los Angeles for 3 years, in November of 1969 I decided to move back to Santa Barbara County with my wife, who was expecting our second child and my oldest son, and was hired by the Office of the Santa Barbara County District Attorney, where I worked until 1979, when I started private practice as a solo practitioner and have been practicing ever since.

I became a member of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church when my family moved here in 1956, but stopped attending while away in law school and did not start attending church until the early 1980s.

Since then I have been an active member of the church, having served a past term on the parish council and serving as an usher and actively involved in our Greek festivals and now again serving on the parish council.

I offer my knowledge and experience as a parish council member in the hope that it will be of benefit to the church and parish helping the church continue to thrive and grow as a place of spiritual worship.

Charlotte Randopoulos



I was born and raised in Santa Barbara leaving after high school graduation to attend UC Davis. It was there I met fellow student Daniel. After graduation we married and moved to Athens, Greece returning five years later. Work took us to Houston and New Orleans before returning to California where we started our company, Metson Marine, Inc. in 1984.

Although we settled in the Ojai area, we decided to join St. Barbara, in my "home town." Over the years, I've served as Sunday School teacher, Golf Tournament Chairperson, Parish Council Secretary and several years as Parish Council President. It was my honor to serve on the planning committee to host His All Holiness, Patriarch Batholomew at his first Environmental Symposium and visit to the United States. What a thrill and inspiration! I was also on the planning committee for the Consecration of our church by Archbishop Spyridon.

I have witnessed our little church do mighty things and know it is because God encourages and challenges us. Working together we can accomplish so much.