

Desert Springs

April 2016
Volume I Issue 2



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

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9:30am Divine Liturgy

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The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Desert Diamonds (50+) — Doree Drakos, Diana Harris, Nikolette Tavlarides
Feed the Homeless — Andrew Stamatias
Greek Festival — Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas, Kristen Vasilarakos
Greek School — Irene Mackos
Hall Rental —
Holy Trinity Academy Parochial School — TeAnn Philippis, Juli Pritsos
HOPE & JOY — Karla DeLord, Alexia Haugen
Jr. GOYA — Sandy Annos, Donna Manelis
Library — Call Church Office for appointment
Little Lambs — OPEN
Maids of Athena — Gabriella Papatzimas
Museum — Bessie Hotis
Myrrhbearers — Diakonissa Mary Thrasher
OPA — Sandy Meris
One Spirit+One Vision — Charlie DeMoss
Parish Council — Pete Choukalas
Philoptochos — Alex Anagnopoulos
Sons of Pericles — Dean Bilitsis
Sr. GOYA — Evan Tsagaris, Chris Fredericksen, Paulina Watson
Sunday School — Kalli Schneider, Kay Ehrick

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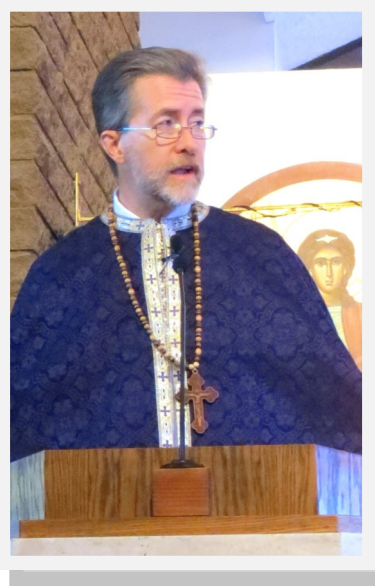
More Photos

button within an article to link to an album in Google Photos to see more pictures of the events profiled on the page.

Email links, website links, Facebook links, and document links will work too, directly from this publication.

Check them out!

Message from Father Apostolos



Fear No Evil

One Saturday evening 30-plus years ago Denise and I were hanging out at her parents' house huddled by the radio, eagerly waiting to hear the debut of one of the tunes my band had recorded. It was an ethereal jazz-rock tune titled "Fear No Evil" and it would become one of the more popular songs in the band's repertoire, decrying the fear so prevalent in the world. Nothing has changed since those heady days of our youth filled with weekend concerts and trips to the recording studio; fear is still a staple of daily life.

If anything, the industry of fear has become more ruthlessly efficient in engendering fear and its correlates, anger, violence, and suspicion, within the hearts and minds of the world's citizens as news organs churn out an unbroken litany of fear-inducing news accounts. But to protest the ubiquity of fear-mongering in the guise of news accounts is not to say that fearsome events aren't actually present in the world. Criminal activity, terror attacks, war-ravaged nations and tidal waves of displaced souls sent fleeing from certain death surely present fearsome images of the often tenuous nature of "peace in our time."

I joked recently after watching an especially shrill evening news broadcast, one that featured terrorist plots, extreme weather, the outbreak of a new virus, and bad economic news that maybe we should go hide in the closet until the "all clear" was sounded. What would the purveyors of such artfully-packaged fear-as-news have to gain that such resources are expended in its production?

A steady diet of fear renders a people malleable and open to courses of action unthinkable in its absence. Fear encourages the acceptance of draconian measures and the surrender of hard-won freedoms. Fear sets neighbor against neighbor and assigns blame and culpability to whichever religious, cultural, national, or "foreign" group that finds itself in the cross-hairs at the moment.

But fear should not be so much as named among committed Christians; at least not fear as defined and understood in the vernacular.

Holy Scripture has quite a lot to say about fear as you may well imagine. The 23rd Psalm contains the line our band used to write the tune; "though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me." The Lord Jesus Christ cautioned His Disciples not to fear those who can kill the body but instead to fear the one who can drag our souls into hell. (Matt. 10:28) and St. Paul wrote to his spiritual son, Timothy; "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and of a sound mind." (2 Tim. 1:7)

Wise Solomon once wrote that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Prov. 9:10) and every Divine Liturgy witnesses the invitation to receive the Body and Blood of Christ "with the fear of God, with faith, and with love." The challenge of fear lies in its direction and not merely in its presence; in other words, we have a tendency to fear the wrong things!

Angry mobs can be incited to form and to chant hateful, bigoted things in response to events continents away and yet very few fear that inevitable moment when the soul slips the confines of the body to wend its way either to Paradise or Gehenna.

Continued on page 4

Father's Message, continued from page 3

The prospect of a sustained economic downturn engenders more fear within our ranks than whether or not our young people are walking with Christ. We're capable of far greater depths of fear over the outcome of national elections than we are when we approach the Chalice unprepared to receive "the Fire that burns the unworthy," as one of our prayers before Holy Communion states.

If the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom then let us choose to be wise! And as wise men and women who rest secure in the mercy of the God "who desires that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth," (1 Tim. 2:4) let our godly fear be directed with reverence toward the One who alone transforms fear, faith, and love into blessed communion with Him.

But let us cannily resist the "spirit of fear" that does not come from God but is so prevalent in the world and instead keep our gaze squarely focused on the Almighty God whose providence directs our lives.

Fr. Anastasios Nield

IOCC Talk After the Pan-Orthodox Vespers

Sunday, March 20, Nick Kasamiotes of International Organization of Christian Charities (IOCC) gave a presentation on the refugee crisis in Greece and what the IOCC is doing to assist the caregiver situations. Bishop Daniel of local Sts. Peter and Paul (OCA) also spoke about addressing this vital need.

More information:

http://www.iocc.org/nwsltr/winter2016/winter2016_pg5.aspx



(above) Nick Kasamiotes



(left) Bishop Daniel



(below and below left)
Audience members listen intently to the presentation.



Myrrhbearers

Myrrhbearers, a ministry for young Orthodox women, seeks to develop an active participation of young women in the life of the Church. Myrrhbearers will serve the Church in special ways and hopefully continue doing so throughout their lives.



At Holy Trinity, young girls beginning in the 6th grade through 9th grade serve during Holy Friday evening and Pascha as the Myrrhbearers that were present at Christ's tomb and were the first to learn of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

If you desire to serve during Holy Week this year, please contact Mary Thrasher. The first practice is April 3rd, Sunday of the Holy Cross, immediately following Divine Liturgy.

We hope to expand this ministry at Holy Trinity Cathedral to include all young girls and young women to become service orientated throughout the year; to participate in the liturgical life of the church through various opportunities related to church and to maintain and preserve the teachings of the Orthodox faith.



Photo Credit: Diakonissa Mary Thrasher

2015 Myrrhbearers

For more information, contact Diakonissa Mary Thrasher at thrashermary@cox.net or 602-867-2827 (h).

Wednesday Bible Study

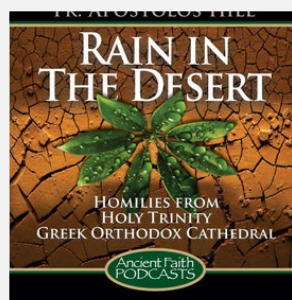
Please make plans to join our weekly Bible Study as Fr. Apostolos continues with a survey of the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament. This study will examine their liturgical presence in our various services, how the Psalms are used as a prayer book in Orthodoxy, and the Wisdom Books found in the Septuagint (Orthodox) Old Testament but excluded from later Protestant translations. The study meets Wednesday mornings at 10am in the Ed Building Café and will run through May.



Photo Credit: Presvytera Denise Hill

Rain In The Desert

Recordings of Father's homilies from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral



Fr. Apostolos Hill, Dean of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Phoenix, AZ, delivers a timely message in a humorous and straightforward preaching style as he draws from his various life adventures to underscore the power of

the Gospel of Jesus Christ to save and to heal broken humanity. Sprinkled liberally throughout with passages from Holy Scripture, Fr. Apostolos' homilies challenge the spiritual ethos of postmodernity that seeks to limit the transforming impact of the life in Christ and convince us that "being a good person" is good enough.

Link to recordings of Father's sermons: <http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain>

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Philoptochos Kicks Off The Lenten Season



The ladies of Philoptochos helped organize a beautiful evening reception following the first Pan

Orthodox Vespers at Holy Trinity Cathedral. Guests from Valley Orthodox churches participated in this communitywide fellowship, enjoying an assortment of delicious Lenten food prepared with love by Philoptochos and members of our community. A special thank you to all who contributed and participated. Philoptochos would also like to extend our warm thanks to **Patty Davis** and **Connie Venetis**, who chaired this event.



[More Photos](#)

Join the Philoptochos - have fun, meet new friends and serve your community.

The Philoptochos was founded in 1902, with a mission: the Philoptochos is the philanthropic arm of a parish. Our Holy Trinity Cathedral St. Katherine Chapter is committed to aiding the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters. Over the years, our chapter has donated thousands of dollars to non-profit organizations and church programs, on behalf of our parishioners.

If you'd like to share your talents and join in some laughter and fellowship, we have the following events in which you might be interested in participating:

4/3

Meet on the Patio with your grocery bags, "plarn", and mats

4/21 & 4/22

Baking Tsoureki for Pascha

4/24

Palm Sunday Tray for the Epitaphio
Philoptochos Bake Sale

4/29

Good Friday Tray – Philoptochos

6/2

FUN Night for members and non-members

Attention College students – or recent graduates on their way to college! Beginning March 27th, scholarship forms will be available in the Church Narthex. Philoptochos will give two \$1,000 scholarships to Holy Trinity students enrolled in college in the fall of 2016. Requirements are on the form. Application deadline for a scholarship is June 5th. If you would like an electronic copy, please call 602-300-0016.

"FRIENDS OF THE POOR"

An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!



What is Philoptochos?

The translation is

Philo = Friend and Ptochos = Poor.

It is literally "Friend of the Poor."

Call Mary Louise at 602-943-5080 for more info.

Sunday School

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival



2016 Parish-Level Participants
(left to right)

Anna Ehrick (Junior), Nikki Kyprianou (Senior), Peter Schneider (Senior),
Dean Papadopoulos (Junior), Loza Brook (Senior),
Susie Papadopoulos (Junior), Jonathan Brook (Senior),
and Eleni Papadopoulos (Junior)



Sunday School Directors:
Kalli Schneider at
602.568.3139
or at kpsgeeks@yahoo.com or
Kay Ehrick at 602.628.8962
or at kehrick@yahoo.com

Can You Help?

A beautifully framed 8"x10" photo was discovered in storage during the recent campus clean up.

The signed name on the front reads "Sam Messirly". An internet search shows that Mr. Messirly was a Silver Star recipient, Army 77th Infantry Division, 1945.

Do you have information as to why his framed photo was found on our Church grounds? Did it once hang prominently? Are there any family members or descendants still around?

We want to give this photo the honor it deserves.

Please contact the Church Office with any information.

Thank you.



Holy Trinity Academy



Holistic Education Is Priceless



Kindergartner Marina receiving a blessing from Fr. Apostolos

There was never a question that our youngest child would attend HTA. We weren't interested in other Christian-based programs and sending him to a vanilla franchised preschool was simply out of the question. We wanted him to go

somewhere that he was familiar with – someplace that was going to teach and reinforce the values that we believed in – someplace that was going to make a difference in our child's new school experience. The HTA difference is obvious – it's our faith. Our Orthodox faith affects our whole life every day, not just on Sundays.

In past Orthodox generations, so much of a person's life was governed by his faith. Meals and celebrations were built around the church calendar and each aspect was connected through one's faith. There was not a gap in how one lived his life, his culture, and his language. All were interwoven in a fine tapestry that was naturally and holistically Orthodox.

Today, there are so many choices and influences that surround us, that we must make every effort to maintain our faith and culture. Not so for our HTA families! Their children are immersed in it all – prayer, lessons, and hymns of the church – on a daily basis.



Learning to draw while upside down, just like Michelangelo.

HTA students also study the great artists through the 21st century, music, world cultures and history, along with other subjects that embody a

traditional holistic education. These subjects are not available to most children in other educational institutions, yet they are considered part of the basic

curriculum at HTA. The opportunity to introduce, learn, and discuss these things make up the basis of HTA. This is only possible in a school that values smaller classroom size, and believes in developing a love of learning that inspires children from a young age to embrace their creativity and learn new things at their own pace.

HTA is led by our Proistamenos and Principal, Father Apostolos Hill, and a Board that consists of individuals who have a vested interest in HTA's continued growth and success: TeAnn Philippis, President, Michael Philippis, Treasurer, Christos Chronis, Chris Frye, and Peter Bilitsis. HTA has a



Aftercare Teacher Costa and friends

dedicated staff, Juli Pritsos (Director/Kindergarten), Mercy Peña-Alevizos (Pre-K3), Vasiliki Karambinaki (Pre-K4), Costa Pritsos

(Aftercare), that love what they do, and a foundation of parents who believe wholeheartedly in HTA's teaching philosophy. Mary McCormick, a former HTA parent said, *"My husband and I had no idea how much the decision for early childhood education would impact our children's lives. HTA has greatly contributed to our children's social, spiritual and academic development. The success of our children independently speaks volumes for the abilities of their educators. The HTA staff is focused, well trained, and ready to encourage a love for learning for every child at*



Mrs. Mercy, Miss Vasiliki, and some of our HTA students

Continued on page 9

Desert Springs April 2016

It's the 10th annual

A Toast to the Future



Saturday, May 21, 2016

6:30 pm to 10 pm

Campus of Holy Trinity Cathedral

\$50 Donation Per Person

Join HTA in celebrating their “I Am a Work of Art” campaign and enjoy hand selected wine and micro-brew samplings paired with specialty tasting dishes by Yianni’s Catering, an evening filled with musical entertainment, and the opportunity to be lucky recipients of exquisite raffle items!

To purchase event and raffle tickets, or to become a sponsor for this event please contact Juli Pritsos at 602-248-3881 or e-mail julipritsos@holyltrinityacademyphx.org

Proceeds will build a new state of the art playground along with HTA’s academic programs.

HTA Article, continued from page 8

any level. This genuine passion for a holistic education is priceless. Our family is blessed to have found HTA.”

We have many parents who share Mary’s sentiment and have helped sow the seeds of enrollment at HTA. They are dedicated to the success of this ministry and are always looking for new ways to help other families take advantage of this wonderful Orthodox education. I know that through these good works, we will continue to reach other Orthodox families who will want to take advantage of this fine and growing educational institution.

For more information on how you can support or take a tour of Holy Trinity Academy, please call or email, Juli Pritsos, Director, at 602-248-3881, or julipritsos@holyltrinityacademyphx.org.



On Facebook at [Holy Trinity Academy](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityAcademy)

Sunday of Orthodoxy

March 20, 2016



[More Photos](#)

St. Nectarios Bookstore

St. Nectarios Books and Beyond will be open as much as possible during Great Lent, after Church services, or by appointment. However, we will be CLOSED on Palm Sunday, April 24, due to the Choir-sponsored Luncheon.

We carry a large selection of icons, books, incense, prayer ropes, and crosses. But we also carry a variety of incense burners, CDs, wall plaques, and greeting cards. Ask to see what is available by special order for baptisms and weddings. We are always ready to help you, but don't hesitate to browse a bit as there may be something else that you hadn't thought about before but is just right for the occasion!

St. Nectarios Books and Beyond is now online: www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org. Can't find what you want? Please email us at info@stnectariosphx.org. Let us know what you wish to order, or let us help you decide. Orders can often be mailed to your home, or can be picked up at the Bookstore. We will always get back to you with all the particulars to verify before we actually complete your order and we accept cash, checks, or credit cards as payment.

Please send us your email address. We will periodically send you a notice of specialty or sale items. Be assured that we do not share your information with anyone else. During Great Lent, all Paschal items—books, icons, cards—will be on sale.

We look forward to providing everything necessary to add to your worship, practice, and understanding of our Orthodox Faith!

Please visit us soon, or call Patsy at 480-239-5270 for an appointment. We can also be reached by email at patsy@stnectariosphx.org.

Kali Saracosti and Kali Anastasi!

2016 Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers

Please join our Brothers & Sisters at the host parishes for these Sunday Evening Lenten Vesper Services

All Vesper Services begin at **6:00 pm**

The Third Sunday of Lent

April 3, 2016

Host Parish:

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church
8202 E. Cactus Road, Scottsdale 480-991-3009



The Fourth Sunday of Lent

April 10, 2016

Host Parish:

SS. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church
1614 E. Monte Vista Road, Phoenix 602-253-9515



The Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 17, 2016

Host Parish:

Exultation of the Holy Cross Orthodox Church
10030 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix 602-867-6025



More information at

www.azorthodox.org

Happy Birthday, Father Apostolos!



Surprise!

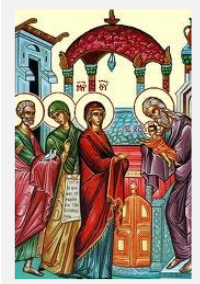


Our Church Family

40-Day Blessing

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalm 27:4



March 13, 2016

Thomas George, son of Katy & George Daniolos
God's Blessings be upon him.

Baptism

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:27



March 19, 2016

Alexander, son of Simon Collins & Michaela Sutu,
Godparent is Mihai Sutu
God's Blessings be upon him.

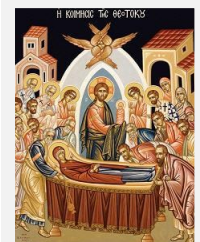
March 26, 2016

Julia, daughter of Evangelia (Zikos) & Joshua Miller,
Godparents are Anthi & Michael O'Neill
God's Blessings be upon her.

Funerals

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23:6



March 31, 2016

George Grevas
May his memory be eternal.

Watch over your heart with all diligence,
for from it flow the springs of life.
Proverbs 4:23



Palm Sunday

**Annual Luncheon
April 24th, 2016**

Speros Community Center
Hosted by the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir
immediately following church services

Lenten buffet includes:
grilled salmon with lemon-dill sauce,
pasta with marinara sauce,
green beans, salad, roll and dessert

Tickets sales end April 20th
Limited seating is available!

Adults - \$20.00
Children Ages 6-12 - \$10.00

For tickets and information, please contact
Tina Zannis 602-996-9297

Tables reserved for parties of 10

Greek School

Lambades/ Πασχαλινές λαμπάδες

Greek children look forward to a visit from their *nona* (νονά - godmother). The customary gift is a lambada (Easter candle), which is lit on Friday or the midnight service of Easter Saturday.



Homemade Easter lambades (Πασχαλινές λαμπάδες) can be bought every Sunday in the Hall or special ordered. Cost is \$10 each

Email Irene at eirinie@gmail.com To order or for more information.

Photo Credits: Irene Mackos

What is Apokries?

Apokries in Greece is a special time filled with fun, laughter, and of course, food. The tradition of Apokries started so that the Christian people could celebrate and indulge before the great 40 day Lent of Easter.

It lasts for three weeks before this period of fasting begins. People dress in masquerade, play games and jokes, have a huge parade, and throw sweets to the observers. People are dressed in costumes with masks, depending on the local traditions, and play jokes on the pedestrians. This takes place only at night. Also, kids and adults knock on the doors of the houses and the homeowners try to guess who they are. Sweets, usually homemade, are offered to the "μασκαράδες (people in masquerade)".

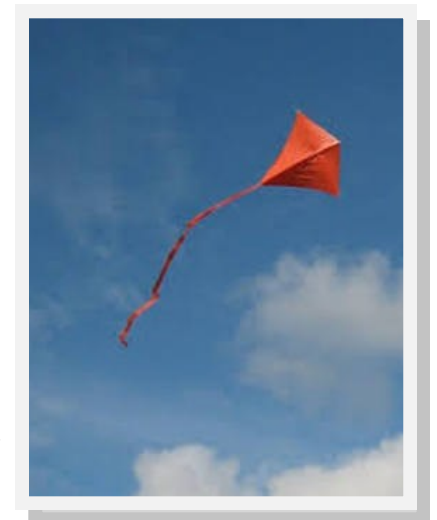
The first day of Lent follows the last Sunday of Apokries. The day is called "Καθαρή Δευτέρα" which literally means "Clean Monday".

What is Clean Monday / Η Καθαρή Δευτέρα?

The first day of the great 40 day fasting period for the Greek Orthodox Christians is Clean Monday. The name "Clean" came about because the housewives, in the past years, were symbolically cleaning, getting ready for the *Sarakosti* (Σαρακοστή).

The families go out to the park and have a picnic. They eat and drink laying down on the fresh spring grass and kids fly their kites all day.

Further information or questions please contact Irene Dartoozos-Mackos at eirinie@gmail.com.



DESERT GOYA LENTEN RETREAT
APRIL 1-2, 2016

THE BEATITUDES

LIVING CHRIST'S WAY



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO



Follow us on Facebook:
HOLY TRINITY PHOENIX YOUTH & OPA

For more info contact: HolyTrinityPhoenixOPA@gmail.com



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO

DESERT GOYA LENTEN RETREAT II APRIL 1-2, 2016

THE BEATITUDES LIVING CHRIST'S WAY



REGISTRATION OPEN - SIGN UP NOW

<http://goo.gl/forms/oK86HUCtrz>

Friday 6:00 pm - Saturday 2:00 pm (Lock-In)

Grades 6 - 12

Holy Trinity Cathedral II 1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix 85016

\$10 suggested donation



Follow us on Facebook:
HOLY TRINITY PHOENIX YOUTH & OPA

For more info contact: HolyTrinityPhoenixOPA@gmail.com

All Saints Camp



ALL SAINTS CAMP

2016 Registration
MAY 29 - JUNE 3

Early (through April 5): \$375
Regular (through May 5): \$400
Late (through May 27): \$425

 **Follow us on Facebook:**
www.facebook.com/AllSaintsOrthodoxCampAZ/

www.AllSaintsCampArizona.com

For more info please contact:
AllSaintsCampArizona@gmail.com

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Sandy Meris, President

Springtime is busy for our OPA Families and kids! With Lent in full swing, we are focusing on our Lenten Retreat, which has something for everyone. A mini-retreat for our Hope & Joy group; two-day Lenten Retreat and Lock-In for our Jr. and Sr. GOYAnS; and a Lenten Workshop for the parents. The title of the retreat is **The Beatitudes**. The kids will learn about the eight blessings that Jesus spoke of in his sermon on the mount, and how it relates to their lives.



The parent workshop will be given by our beloved and former parish priest, Fr. Timothy Pavlatos. He will focus on family wellness and connectedness and even challenge parents to “take back the family dinner.”

It truly is a beautiful way to focus on Christ and family during Lent. We do all the work for you – all you need to do is register your kids and yourselves for what promises to be a spiritually fulfilling weekend. Please see the link below to register for this retreat.

Calendar of Events

April

- 1st & 2nd – Jr. & Sr. GOYA Lenten Retreat
- 1st – Parent Lenten Workshop
- 2nd – Hope & Mini-Retreat
- 3rd – Dance Workshop & Dance Parents Meeting

May

- 6th – End of the Year Celebration! Family Movie Night & Picnic on the Lawn of Holy Trinity
- 22nd – Graduation Luncheon
- 29th – Leave for All Saints Camp

June

- May 29th – June 3rd – All Saints Camp at Pine Summit in Prescott
- 5th – 10th – Vacation Church School (Session I)
- 13th – 17th – Vacation Church School (Session II)

Youth Groups

Our youth groups typically meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Here is the age breakdown of the groups and their advisers.



Hope & JOY – Kindergarten – 5th Grade
Advisers: Karla Delord kpdelord@msn.com
Alexia Haugen haugens4@cox.net



Jr. GOYA – 6th – 8th Grades
Advisers: Sandy Annos sannos@cox.net
Donna Manelis donnamanelis@aol.com



Sr. GOYA – High School
Advisers: Chris Fredericksen c.fredericksen@yahoo.com
Evan Tsagaris etsagaris89@gmail.com
Parent Adviser: Paulina Watson watsonapoulos@yahoo.com

Family Wellness Ministry

OPA is proud to be bringing a brand new ministry to Holy Trinity Cathedral. It is called the Family Wellness Ministry. This ministry is under the direction and leadership of the Metropolis of San Francisco and is being led by Fr. Timothy Pavlatos on behalf of the Diocese.

According to the Diocese, “the Family Wellness Ministry is committed to providing resources, training, support and information, seminars and workshops to church communities, individuals, families, clergy and all those who desire healthier relationships and want to create deeper connections.”

OPA is honored to have our own **Andi Furlis** and **Nikki Forman** who will join the OPA board to bring this ministry to Holy Trinity and act as liaisons to the Diocese.

The current and upcoming ministry programs the Diocese will provide are:

- “PREPARE” Pre-Marital Preparation
- Marriage Enrichment
- Divorce Care and Divorce Care 4 Kids
- Parenting Workshops
- Clergy Couples’ Retreats
- Reclaiming The Family Dinner Challenge

Check out the website for more information and to take the “Reclaiming The Family Dinner Challenge” www.familywellnessministry.org

OPA will begin to explore this ministry by focusing on offering more Parenting Workshops & Activities. We will kick off on **Friday, April 1st with our Lenten Parent Workshop**. This ministry is brand new to the Diocese as it only began in January 2016. Watch for more information to become available as this ministry grows and develops at Holy Trinity and throughout the Diocese.

Hope & JOY Lenten Cupcakes



OPA at the MOVIES My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2



Studio Movie Grill Scottsdale
March 25, 2016

Phoenix Area Young Adult League (YAL)

YAL (Young Adult League) Mission

Available to all college students and young professionals (18-35), the mission of the Phoenix Area Young Adult League is to integrate all Orthodox young adults into the life of our many parishes, and the Church as a whole, through prayer and church events.

For any young adult looking to engage their faith for the first time, or desiring to press forward in the development of their life in Christ, this ministry offers such programs as **Fr Phil's Bible Study** (@ St. Katherine in Chandler), the **Orthodox Forum** (@ Assumption in Scottsdale), **regional Metropolis young adult retreats**, **missions trips**, and numerous other fun and informing **outings and activities**.

Besides this, the Phoenix Area Young Adult League further offers for those looking for the ability to give back to the Church and surrounding communities, various ongoing volunteer opportunities such as **serving on their church's Parish Council**, **teaching a Sunday School class**, **coaching a basketball or volleyball team**, **Summer Camp counseling**, **K-12th grade mentoring**, and **participation in other annual area philanthropic events**.

Recognizing the importance of simply engaging in and enjoying real fellowship, connection, and community, this ministry also offers plenty of opportunities for that too!

If interested, or know someone who should be, contact Stephanie Venetis at stephanie.venetis@gmail.com



Photo Credits: Stephanie Venetis

Daughters of Penelope Family Panagiri

Saturday, March 12, 2016



[More Photos](#)

Education Building Basement Clean Up

Members of the **Parish Council** and the **Jr. GOYA** and **Sr. GOYA** Youth Groups tackled the remaining items in the basement of the Education Building on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

Check out the “After” photo!



Photo Credit: Pete Choukalas

American Hellenic Institute Foundation College Student Foreign Policy Study Trip to Greece and Cyprus June 15 – July 1, 2016

To stand in a place where, for generations, Christians stood in awe and reverence of the Creator of all, where incense and psalmody once rose from earth to Heaven in praise of the God who became man; but now stands abandoned and desecrated, with no respect or honor given to things of the earth or of Heaven, is truly a powerful and moving experience.

– Manoli Anagnostiadis, University of Maryland, upon viewing a desecrated Church in occupied Cyprus in 2012.

The AHIF Foreign Policy trip to Cyprus and Greece was an invaluable experience. Through briefings with prominent government officials, and experiences like visiting the occupied territory of Cyprus, I gained an understanding why it is important to lobby for Greek and Cypriot issues in the United States. The study trip made me a better-informed Greek American and has put me in a position where I can make a difference and advocate for Greek and Cypriot issues in America.

– Michael Savvas, University of San Diego (2010 trip)

The AHIF trip is something I will never forget. I am returning to the United States with new friends, amazing memories, and as a more learned person because of this foreign policy trip. I wouldn't trade those two weeks for anything.

– Lia Seremetis, University of Cincinnati (2009 trip)

For more information on how to apply, visit:

<http://ahiworld.org/for-students/policy-trip.html>
or email Yola Pakhchian at yolap@ahiworld.org

Photos, from top:
The students at the Acropolis (2009).
Students aboard the H5 Rignakelly submarine with Lieutenant Commander Georgios Karagannis, Commanding Officer (2014).
At the old Nicosia International Airport with a member of the UN Peace keeping forces (2010).
Student delegation with the President of Greece, Karolos Papoulias (2011).
Students aboard the H5 Salamis frigate (2013).
Students at the House of Representatives in Cyprus (2012).
Students near Acropolis Museum (2015).



Happy and Congratulatory Ads

Huge "thanks" to
John Mitchell
for providing
delicious food
with such loving humor!!



Happy 92nd Birthday

to **Barbara**, who comes in to the
Church Office most every day to
assist in any way she can!



Interested in *Desert Springs* Home Delivery?

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Enjoy COLOR copies of Holy Trinity Cathedral's *Desert Springs* delivered to you!

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NEW!

Congratulatory and Happy Ads!

In each issue, Desert Springs will offer the opportunity for our community to share good news with others! Ads will be a standard 1/8" of a page (horizontal).



Sample Size

This is the place to recognize your family, friends and fellow parishioners for anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, get wells, awards, special accomplishments, good deeds, above-and-beyond volunteering—anything that is positive, endearing and thoughtful.

Cost is \$20 per ad for one issue. Photos are acceptable.

Fill out the form and include an optional photo and full payment (cash or check) and drop in the boxes in the Narthex and Church Office or mail to Kristen Vasilarakos c/o Holy Trinity Cathedral, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, 85016. Checks payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral. Or contact Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net for more information.

Ads will be designed by the Desert Springs staff. Submitter will be contacted prior to publishing if editing of the content of the wording is needed.



Congratulatory and Happy Ads for the *Desert Springs* monthly publication:

Wording: _____

I understand the staff will design the ad at their discretion and will contact me if content changes are needed. ____ (initial)

I need the included photo returned to me. Yes No ____ (initial)

I am including \$20 by cash or check (checks payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral). ____ (initial)

I wish to remain anonymous. Yes No ____ (initial)

Submitter's Name: _____

Submitter's Contact Phone: _____ Contact Email: _____



AHEPA Chapter 219

8TH ANNUAL

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2016

Immediately Following Divine Liturgy

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
James A. Speros Community Center**

1973 E. Maryland Avenue ~ Phoenix

Adult: \$30 (21+)
Student: \$20 (14-20)
Child: \$10 (8 - 13)
7 & Under Free

Contact

**Pete Marudas
602.284.1638**

**John Kostaras
480.318.1935**

Limited Seating Event!

Purchase Your Tickets Today!