



# Desert Springs

September 2016  
Volume I Issue 6



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

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**Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill**  
**Rev. Deacon John Thrasher**

**Office Hours:**  
Monday–Thursday, 9:00am–3:00pm

**Sunday Worship**  
Cathedral  
8:00am Orthros  
9:30am Divine Liturgy

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The 25th of each month

**Sunday Bulletin Deadline**  
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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**2016 Parish Council Members**  
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Connie Contes—Vice President  
Dina Anagnopoulos—Treasurer  
Tiffani Bichakas—Secretary  
Barbara Cope, Charles DeMoss,  
Sandy Meris, Tony Nicoluzakis,  
Chris Pritsos, Angela Raup, Jim Thomas

**Holy Trinity Cathedral Website**  
[www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org)

**Metropolis of San Francisco Website**  
[www.SanFran.goarch.org](http://www.SanFran.goarch.org)

**Archdiocese Website**  
[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

## Organization Contacts

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All Saints Camp — Evan Tsagaris  
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Bookstore — Patsy Harris  
Choir — Terri Alexon  
Dance — Niko Panagiotakopoulos  
Daughters of Penelope — Connie Panagiotakopoulos  
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  
Holy Trinity Academy Parochial School — TeAnn Philippis, Juli Pritsos  
HOPE & JOY — Karla DeLord, Alexia Haugen  
Jr. GOYA — Sandy Annos, Donna Manelis  
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  
Wedding Coordinator — Georgia Kanelos, Terri Alexon  
YAL — Stephanie Venetis

If you are reading this publication electronically (on your computer or on your phone), click on the

**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



Junk mail has long been the bane of American consumers and clergymen are a magnet for a peculiar type of unwanted solicitations for religious goods and services which I jokingly refer to as “Jesus junk.” Good for a chuckle, this “junk” is quickly disposed of, but one small post card I received years ago sent a chill down my spine.



It featured pre-packaged “self-serve communion” packaged in a plastic coffee creamer-sized cup containing grape juice with an oyster cracker sealed in cellophane atop. I vividly recall staring at it and wondering aloud to myself “is this the future?”

At first blush, we may scoff at such gimmicky notions. After all, the Eucharist is the pinnacle of our spiritual lives; historically safeguarded from prying eyes and carefully regulated as to who may or may not receive the Holy Gifts. So why the chill down my spine when I encountered this bit of crass religious marketing?

The protestant narrative holds to the view that the uninterrupted sweep of history is irrelevant today. Orthodoxy, however, maintains a living and vital continuum between what was, what is, and what will be; an essential element of which is the Holy Canons which arose from the Ecumenical Councils of the Church and which uphold a *standard* of Orthodox behavior. Standards can be daunting whenever they expose a significant divergence between our own behavior and a given goal. For instance, the Holy Canons instruct the faithful that we mustn't *habitually* arrive late for dinner or eat and run... not at the Lord's Table.

When Denise and I were newlyweds we would frequently invite a dear friend to our apartment for dinner and we had never before witnessed such joy over a meal as he savored every bite to the fullest; causing me to wonder if Denise had fed him something better than she served me! The casual attitude toward the Lord's Table one often sees raises the question of whether or not we relish what we are being served. Family mealtime is intended for far more than to merely provide minimal nutritional intake as quickly as possible. We are not served a bland gelatinous vitamin-paste but (hopefully) delicious meals thoughtfully prepared and offered with love.

Likewise, the Lord's Table provides us with “the Bread of Heaven,” Manna,” “the Medicine of Immortality,” that is, the Body and Blood of Christ. One doesn't “take” Holy Communion; one “receives” it. And if as faithful Orthodox Christians we believe what the Church teaches us about the Eucharist we must assess whether or not our behavior aligns with this teaching.

It has become standard procedure for the faithful to habitually arrive “late for dinner,” well after the Small and Great Entrances, the homily, even the Lord's Prayer; some even daring to walk from the narthex directly into the Communion line before turning heel and exiting the Church, all practices forbidden by the Holy Canons. Hence, the chill down my spine as I held the pre-packed “communion” advertisement for our present-day practices are not

Continued on page 4

so very far removed from pre-packaged, self-serve "communion."

In her compassion, the Canons of the Church extends "economy" for communicants to arrive *as late as the Antiphons* if they intend to partake of Holy Communion but insists that we be present in time to hear the Epistle and Gospel readings. And when Denise and I entered the Orthodox Church nearly 30 years ago this practice was the norm... but no longer.

Beloved, we must reclaim our spiritual birthright and leave forever behind us those behaviors which evince disrespect toward the things of God. Allowing our young people to habitually arrive as late as they wish to the Lord's Table simply makes us complicit in the spiritual travails which invariably ensue when they confront grownup challenges in a spiritually malnourished state. This practiced disregard for the Eucharist must end now!

I as your pastor would be derelict in my duty to you were I simply to shrug and turn a blind eye to so harmful a disconnect between the Eucharistic standard established in the Church and our local practice; for we are not guided by our own "tradition" but by *Holy Tradition*. And if we would be true to the Orthodox Faith we must reject the former and embrace the latter!

Much has been written of the need to reclaim "family mealtime." And if this is needful in a parochial setting it is much more so in a spiritual one. May we then cultivate a life-giving hunger for the heavenly banquet set before us in the Holy Eucharist and demonstrate to our children the value of proper spiritual nutrition and appropriate table manners.

*Fr. Apostolos Nihil*

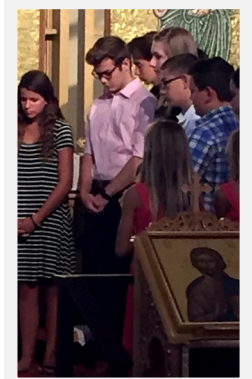
## Back-To-School Blessing

Sunday, August 21, 2016



Father Apostolos called school-age children up front to the altar to offer a blessing to our Cathedral students as they start a new school year.

"Christ my Lord, the Giver of light and wisdom, who opened the eyes of the blind man and transformed the fishermen into wise heralds and teachers of the gospel through the coming of the Holy Spirit, shine also in my mind the light of the grace of the Holy Spirit. Grant me discernment, understanding and wisdom in learning. Enable me to complete my assignments and to abound in every good work, for to You I give honor and glory. Amen."



Photos by Denise Dye

# Stewardship

By Sandy Meris

## A CATHEDRAL WITH SO MUCH TO OFFER

In August, the Stewardship Committee hosted Ministry Sunday. Eighteen different ministries filled the large hall of the Speros Center. Everyone from Philoptochos to Choir and AHEPA to Sunday School was represented. So many ministries, in fact, that they had to share tables with one another. This is a good problem to have!

Each ministry took time to carefully plan out their table, decorate it, and show off the work that they do and the people who participate in them with photos, brochures, sign-ups, and even candy and flowers. The hall looked bountiful. It made the Stewardship Committee so proud to see all that Holy Trinity has to offer its parishioners. There is certainly something for everyone at our beloved Cathedral. All anyone needs to do is decide how and where they want to devote their time and get involved.

The ministries are an important part of stewardship. Being involved in a ministry draws us closer to our Church. It creates fellowship and answers God's call to us to help our fellow man.

Stewardship is not just about making a financial pledge and writing a check to the Church. According to the book, *Oriented Leadership*, which is about Orthodox Christian Leadership, stewardship is defined as a call of the faithful to share willingly the gifts that God has bestowed on them, including sharing these gifts for God's works.

Do you have the heart of a teacher? Consider becoming a Sunday School teacher. Do you have a nice singing voice? Consider joining the choir and singing the Lord's praises during Divine Liturgy. Do you feel fulfilled helping those less fortunate? Consider joining Philoptochos – a friend to the poor. There are so many opportunities to enrich our lives right here at our church. We hope Ministry Sunday inspired you to get involved and share your gifts and talents.



[More Photos](#)

Haven't filled out your Stewardship 2016 Pledge Card? It's never too late.  
Contact the Church Office today.

Stewardship 2017 is in the planning stages and will be launched in the fall. Exciting new changes and additions to make becoming a steward easier.

Meet your Stewardship Team:

Sandy Meris – Chairperson	Charles DeMoss	Angela Koumontzis
Alexi Panagiotakopoulos	Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos	Costa Tzavaras
Adam Venetis	Paulina Watson	

**+REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL+**

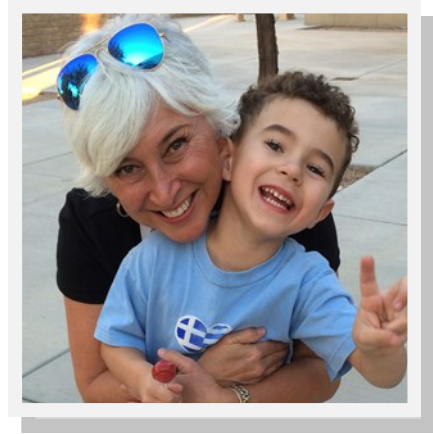
# Holy Trinity Academy

By Juli Pritsos

## Take Five

If you are a Phoenix Native, or long-time Phoenician, you are surely familiar with the Phoenix-based auto dealer, Lou Grubb, and his soft-sell TV commercials, entitled, *“Take Five”*. The commercials focused on life lessons and PSAs and had absolutely nothing to do with selling cars. Mr. Grubb was an iconic figure in his day and his laid-back demeanor and soothing voice were nothing short of mesmerizing. The *“Take Five”* spot that still resonates with me today was about kids going off on their first day of school. It went something like, *“Thousands of young people are leaving home today without an ID, a penny to their name, only the clothes on their back, going out on a new adventure in life for the first time without knowing a soul!...”*

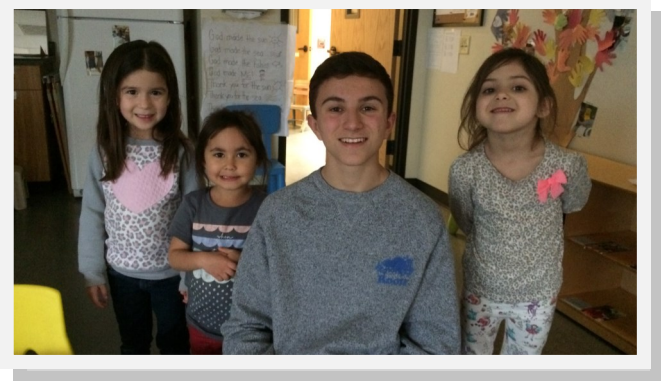
I think about that commercial at the beginning of every school year. It is my pleasure to witness children walk with confidence each year in to a strange environment, hug and kiss their parents goodbye, and more often than not happily bound off on their new adventure with HTA!



I, along with many of us, grew up in the age of television with cartoons only on Saturday mornings for a few hours, and Monday through Friday, with another iconic show, *“The Wallace and Ladmo Show,”* that showcased silly antics between cartoons for an hour before school started. Today, our lives are saturated with multi-media overload 24/7, creating numerous ways for adults and children to be entertained. As a teacher, I try to rely on my own form of animation and entertainment with my quick wit, maternal instincts, and a high SQ (Silly Quotient), all while providing a strong foundation of knowledge, self-confidence, and a love of learning

without bells and whistles! And I love it! I love being that person that relates to children and can communicate with them at their level. It is my God-given talent and I have no doubt that this is what I am supposed to do!

With the beginning of the school year upon us, we look forward to new budding relationships, not only with our Littles, but with their families as well. Speaking as HTA’s Director, our teachers are hands down some of the best in the business, and I encourage you to get to know them. They are well educated, dedicated, happy, and most importantly, they love children! **Mercy Peña-Alevizos**, Pre-K3/Pre-K4 teacher, **Jordan Normoyle**, Kindergarten teacher, **Costa Pritsos**, After Care Provider, and of course **Fr. Apostolos Hill**, Principal, truly shine like the brightest stars, allowing me to keep a little luster for myself.



You can visit us at [htaphx.org](http://htaphx.org) or “Take Five” and meet us at the HTA Table during the Visions and Traditions Brunch on September 11 in the Community Center. We are always happy to talk about our program, and never run out of smiles and hugs!

# Visions & Traditions

Join us for an Evening Gala and Brunch celebrating 40 years of parish life and ministry. On Saturday, September 10, enjoy hosted cocktails, dinner and live entertainment starting at 6:30pm.

On Sunday, September 11, following Divine Liturgy, join us for a Sunday Brunch celebrating family and youth. For more information and/or tickets for both events, please contact Angela Raup at 520-276-8289 or email her at PhxTrinityGala@gmail.com.

..... **DO NOT MISS** .....

Join His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos as we all Celebrate  
Parish Life and Ministry at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

  
*Visions & Traditions*

**EVENING GALA**  
*Celebrate as we toast to the Visions & Traditions of Holy Trinity*  
Saturday, September 10, 2016  
Cocktails - 6:30 pm | Dinner - 7:30 | Live Entertainment  
JAMES A. SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER  
**- NOTE: BLACK TIE OPTIONAL - NOT REQUIRED -**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
*An afternoon celebrating family and our youth*  
Sunday, September 11, 2016 | Following Divine Liturgy  
JAMES A. SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER

.....  .....

**SEND IN YOUR RSVP or PURCHASE TICKETS DURING COFFEE HOUR.**  
email PhxTrinityGala@gmail.com or call 520-276-8289

**EVENT CHAIR: ANGELA RAUP**

# Re-Retirement and a Hello



Happy Trails!

The word "retirement" doesn't seem to pack the same punch as it may have in days gone by; particularly not where parish work and ministry is concerned. If you doubt this, please simply drop by the Speros Center on a festival baking day to witness all of our beloved "retired" cooks and bakers as they crank out the goods!

But to the extent that one can be said to "retire" around here, our own Lynn Graham is planning to hang up her spurs as my

Administrative Assistant in September. Lynn graciously allowed me to coax her out of her last retirement to help me settle in and I/we am/are indebted to her for this. Much like a duck swimming on a pond, what appears to be placid and serene above the water's surface is more illusion than fact; it takes a good deal of paddling to keep things moving along!

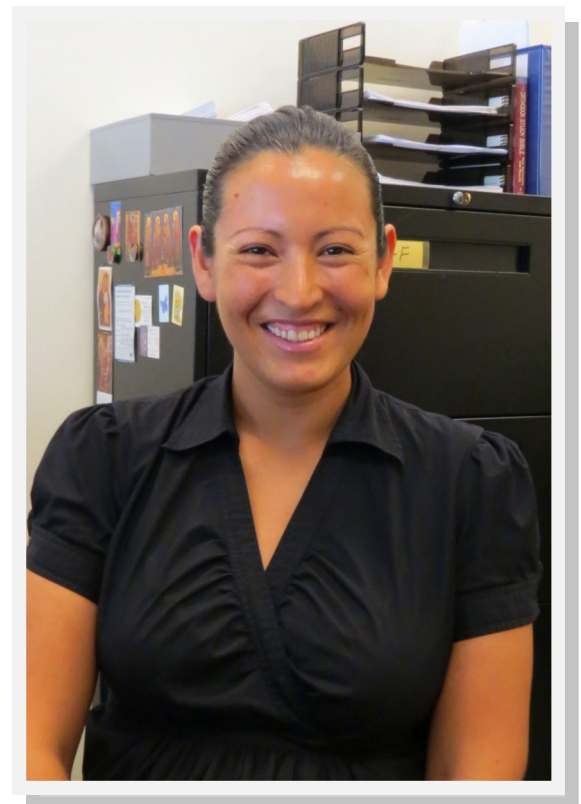
Lynn has been invaluable in facilitating the many support services our Cathedral Office provides to our numerous parish ministries and I'm certain you can imagine the degree of complexity in sorting out the inevitable resource and scheduling complications that often arise in a parish our size. But she has consistently discharged her many duties with poise and aplomb and though Lynn will be sorely missed I do hope her "retirement" sticks this time around!

She promises to lend her institutional memory to me and to our new Office Manager Diana Gamacho whom she is busily training even now! God bless you, Lynn, and thank you for your many gifted labors these last two years! Please be sure to offer her your own blessings and well-wishes when you see her - relaxed and worshipping - in our Divine Services!

-Father Apostolos

## Introducing Our New Office Manager

"You may have seen me." Diana is no stranger to Holy Trinity Cathedral. She has been helping Yianni's Catering down in the Community Center for many years during various social events. Born in Mexico and moved to Arizona at a very young age, she considers herself a seasoned Phoenician who has learned to love the heat. Working in customer service for many years, she really enjoys working directly with people. Diana has been married to Johnny, her high school sweetheart, since 2007. Together they have a beautiful daughter Bianca, a bubbly kindergartener. They are also anxiously awaiting the arrival of a second child at the end of October. As a family they enjoy various outdoor activities including camping, hiking and mountain biking. As Office Manager, Diana is very excited about becoming a part of supporting the Holy Trinity Cathedral community. Don't be shy and stop in to the office to say hi!



*Desert Springs September 2016*



# Sunday School

By Kalli Schneider

See you on September 11<sup>th</sup>!  
Kay Ehrick & Kalli Schneider  
Co-Directors of Holy Trinity Church School



**Sunday School Directors:**  
Kalli Schneider at 602.568.3139  
or at [kpsgeeks@yahoo.com](mailto:kpsgeeks@yahoo.com) or  
Kay Ehrick at 602.628.8962  
or at [kehrick@yahoo.com](mailto:kehrick@yahoo.com)

Sunday School hosted Coffee Hour for the month of August.



Sunday School Staff members (from left to right) Eliot Staikos, Kay Ehrick, Kalli Schneider, Paulina Watson, Pamela Maydanis and Evan Alexon sign up Sunday School students.



Teacher Cindy Kyprianou oversees the Sunday School table on Ministry Sunday.



Sunday School Directors serve Chris Petroulakis a frappe' before the luncheon on Ministry Sunday.



Who's up for a frappe'?

# Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners 50+



Mark Your Calendars!

**SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>**, 11:00am

Welcome Back Pot Luck

James A. Speros Community Center Hall

**OCTOBER TBA**, 9:30am

Music Concert, ASU Kerr Cultural Center

6110 N. Scottsdale Road

**NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**, 11:00am

All Pan Orthodox Church Picnic

McCormick Railroad Park

7301 E. Indian Bend Road

**DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**, 11:00am

Christmas Party Pot Luck & Gift Exchange

James A. Speros Community Center

**JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup>**, 2017, 10:00am

Desert Botanical Gardens,

1201 N. Galvin Parkway

**FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup>**, 2017, 11:00am

Valentine's Lunch

Matt's Big Breakfast,

32<sup>nd</sup> Street & Camelback Road

**MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>**, 2017, 11:00am

All Pan Orthodox Church Picnic

Chaparral Park, 5401 N. Hayden Road

**APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>**, 2017, 10:30am

Trolley Ride and Lunch, Scottsdale Mall

**MAY: TO BE ANNOUNCED**



For more information on attending Desert Diamonds upcoming Fall events, contact

Diana Harris at 602-996-0113,

Doree Drakos at 602-993-0659 or

Nickolette Tavlarides at 602-725-8653

# Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos



What is Philoptochos?

The translation is

Philo = Friend and

Ptochos = Poor.

It is literally "Friend of the Poor."

"In a full heart there is room for everything, and in an empty heart there is room for nothing." - Antonio Porchia



Philoptochos Board Members pose at Ministry Sunday  
(From left to right)

Bessie Hotis, Zoe Pestrivas, Mary Louise Theodoropoulos,  
Georgia Fourlis, Alex Anagnopoulos, Sheila Asala  
and Lois Sakkas



Bessie Hotis and Alex Anagnopoulos show the  
Philoptochos Activity Board at Ministry Sunday

Interested in joining Philoptochos? Call Mary  
Louise at 602-943-5080 for more info.

# Choir Notes

*"I will sing praises to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."*  
Psalm 104:33

Did you know that the act of singing is not optional for Christians? It's a command! *"Let the work of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."*  
Colossians 3:16.

Singing is not entertainment, but is worship. That's exactly what 13-year-old Susie Papadopoulos said when asked what she enjoys most about singing in the choir: "When you sing in the choir, you are more involved in the service and it makes many different types of people come together to worship."



Choir member  
Susie Papadopoulos

Besides worship, singing is warfare against the forces of evil that want to destroy the lives of Christians. A singing heart is thinking more about Godly things and less about sin or other worldly distractions. Also, singing can strengthen a Christian during times of trial. For example,

what did Apostle Paul and Silas do while being unjustly imprisoned for the sake of the Gospel? Sing! (Acts 16:25)



If you or your child are interested in learning how to sing for the glory of God, please contact Terri Alexon, Choir Director, by telephone at 480-233-2416 or by email, [hthphmusicdirector@gmail.com](mailto:hthphmusicdirector@gmail.com). Private auditions are being held for children ages 7 and up on Sunday, **September 18<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 1:00pm** in the choir loft rehearsal room. Rehearsals for the adult choir are scheduled most Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30pm.

**HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**  
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016 Tel: 602.264.7863 Fax: 602.230.9099

*I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.*  
*Psalms 104:33*

**Holy Trinity Cathedral  
Youth Choir**

Private auditions in  
choir loft rehearsal room  
(Ages 7 and up)  
**Sunday, September 18th  
NOON—1:00 pm**

For more information, contact Terri Alexon, Director,  
at 480-233-2416 or [hthphmusicdirector@gmail.com](mailto:hthphmusicdirector@gmail.com)

# St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Patsy Harris

September 1<sup>st</sup> is the Ecclesiastical New Year. As the cycle of Church life is renewed, let us each renew our Faith in Jesus Christ our Lord God and Savior and reaffirm our responsibilities as a Member of His Church. Make time this month to contemplate on what this means for you personally. As September is the month in which we renew our commitments to the various Ministries at Holy Trinity Cathedral, we must also remind ourselves that being a part of the Body of Christ (His Church) means that we must actively live our faith. Christians are not mere observers; they are do-ers!

September 8<sup>th</sup> marks the Nativity of the Theotokos. From the miracle of her conception to her Dormition the Theotokos is the perfect example of giving our lives to Christ.

September 14<sup>th</sup>, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, is another important holy day this month. Many times have our priests, Sunday School teachers, and parents taught us about the importance of the Holy Cross, the symbol of our belief in Christ as Lord and God. This ecclesiastical year may we also focus on the name of this holy day, "Exaltation," and may we each day exalt ("to show/feel a lively or triumphant joy; to be highly elated") in our Christianity. May we be unafraid to demonstrate and share the Holy Cross and its significance for us, wherever we are or whoever we are with!

September 26<sup>th</sup> is the last important holy day of the month, the day on which John the Baptist was beheaded. While an act such as this may seem like an ending, as Christians we know that on this day St. John really began his True Life in God's Kingdom, the eternal Everlasting Life promised to all of us through His crucifixion on the Cross and the Resurrection of Christ.

St. Nectarios Books and Beyond is in need of bookshelves to help store and display the many icons and other items we have available. Please contact Patsy (see below) if you are able to help meet this need. Also, we are in need of assistance for the Festival, from being there to answer questions about Orthodoxy to assisting visitors in finding specific items. Again, if this interests you, please contact Patsy **by September 18<sup>th</sup>**, so that a schedule can be made and training arranged for those who feel they will benefit from this. Thank you in advance for considering our requests!

If St. Nectarios Books and Beyond can assist in any way, please contact us at:

[www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org](http://www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org)

[patsy@stnectariosphx.org](mailto:patsy@stnectariosphx.org)

Patsy Harris – (480) 239-5270



## Father Matthew Gilbert and Family

As you may have learned, Fr. Matthew Gilbert (married to our own Denise Bruskas) has been diagnosed with stage 4 non-smokers' lung cancer which had metastasized throughout his body before it had become symptomatic. If you would like to make an offering to help offset the Gilbert's considerable expenses, please make your contributions payable to "J. Matthew Gilbert."

# 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



8/14/2016

Calan Pritsos, son of Jennifer & Michael Pritsos

*God's Blessings be upon him.*



# Hellenic Historical Museum

Located in the northeast section of the James A. Speros Community Center, the Museum displays vintage photographs and other historic artifacts related to pioneer Greek families in Phoenix from the early 1900s, the founding in 1930 of the first Hellenic Orthodox Church in Arizona, and the relocation in 1973 to the present site of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Open the first Sunday of each month after Divine Liturgy.

Contact Bessie Hotis at [bhotis@cox.net](mailto:bhotis@cox.net) for more Information.



Altar door from Virginia Avenue. Door is displayed in the Historical Museum.

# The Original Phoenix Greek Festival

Mark Your Calendars!

9/13/2016 6:00pm Festival Meeting (Lounge): Finance, Gate, Admission Tickets, Gift Certificates, Parking Passes, Church Tours, Bookstore  
Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone associated with finance, the bank, the counting room, cashiers, entrance gate, church office, church tours, bookstore  
What do we want to accomplish? Debit/credit cards, banking procedures, registers, entrance procedures, ticket and passes printing, promotions distribution, who needs tickets/baked goods/other in exchange for donations, church tours schedule and procedures, bookstore needs, any area left unaddressed, finalizing and implementing previous decisions

Festival Flyers are available! Find them attached to the weekly Church email, printed at the Festival Table on Sundays, on Facebook, or ask in the Church Office.



— THE ORIGINAL PHOENIX —  
**GREEK<sup>®</sup> Festival**  
— 56TH ANNUAL —

**FRIDAY:**  
5PM - 10PM  
**SATURDAY:**  
11AM - 10PM  
**SUNDAY:**  
11AM - 8PM

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral - 1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix  
[phoenixgreekfestival.org](http://phoenixgreekfestival.org) • (602) 264-2791 • [f](https://www.facebook.com/)

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines  
Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market  
Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

**ADMISSION**  
\$3.00 - for an entire day of fun  
Children under 12 free  
Seniors over 60:  
FREE Saturday from  
11:00am - 3:00pm  
\*No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)

**PARKING**  
Free Parking at Charles Schwab - 24th St. & Lincoln.  
Shuttles every 15 minutes  
\$5.00 to park in church parking lot



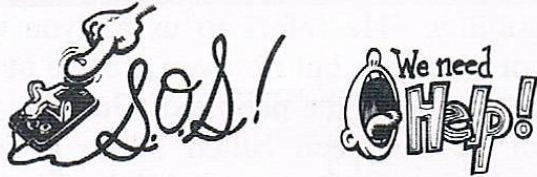
THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.

# Festival Memory



## THE DESERT LANTERN

BI-MONTHLY BULLETIN OF HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85016 • Rev. Theo Anastas • 264-7863 VOLUME XI, NO. 5 SEPT/OCT 1992



### SOS - HELP! HELP! HELP! by Mae Ducas

By now you should have received a letter in the mail regarding the break down of our freezer which stored all of the prepared pastries for this year's festival. We now must pull together and begin all over again. Work began Tuesday, August 18, and will continue until the Festival. Please review the new baking schedule and join us along with a friend. We have six weeks in which to pull it all together. Baby sitting will be available for day and evening workers. Contact Mary Maniatis at 840-0173 or Mae Ducas at 264-7926 if you have any questions.

Back in 1992, the freezer in the Speros Center broke, causing the loss of *all* the baked goods that our parishioners had made up until then for that year's Festival.

They had to start over with less than seven weeks to go!

Mae Ducas was contacted for her memories from 24 years ago. She shared that there was a planned bus outing to a park in Flagstaff and that many of the bakers went. After a wonderful day of picnicking in the cool weather, Mae broke the news on the ride back to Phoenix. She figured that after a relaxing day, everyone would be more receptive to the bad news. It worked! They came up with plans and the resolve to get the pastries remade.

Mary Maniatis shared that until the freezer was fixed, the Church rented freezer space from a company southeast of 16th Street and Glendale Avenue near the canal, behind the grocery store in the McDonald's parking lot. Freshly baked pastries were transported there and kept until they were brought back before the Festival to be packaged and made ready to sell.

Our parishioners come through when the need arises! Ευχαριστώ!

## Baking Production

Preparation for the 2016 Original Phoenix Greek Festival

[More Photos](#)



# 2016 Phoenix Greek Festival Meeting and Preparation Schedule

Updated  
6/23/2016

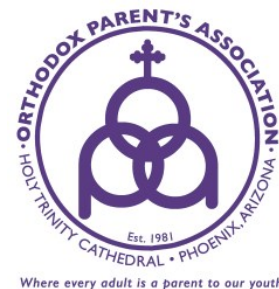
	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
Jun 2016				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Jul 2016	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Aug 2016	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Sep 2016	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Oct 2016	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

- **6/14/2016 6:00pm Festival Meeting (Lounge): Food and Beverage**  
 Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone associated with food purchasing, food production, kitchens, inside and outside food booths, baking, alcohol, soda and water purchasing/donations, bars  
 What do we want to accomplish? Purchasing decisions, finalized menu, calendar laid out for festival prep cooking, current inventory count, donation requests, purchasing, bar lay-outs and construction, staffing and staffing responsibilities, festival week timelines
- **6/22/2016 9:00am Dolmathes Production (Large Hall)** Open to all
- **6/29/2016 9:00am Melomakarona Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **7/12/2016 6:00pm Festival Meeting (Lounge): Infrastructure, Festival Site Plan, Vendor Site Plan, Permitting, Entertainment, Shuttles, Shuttle Parking, Church Lot Parking, Trash, Scout Duties, Hired Labor**  
 Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone associated with facilities, equipment, vendors, permitting, entertainment, shuttles, parking, trash, Scouts, hired labor  
 What do we want to accomplish? Site lay-out, electricity, lighting, sound, vendors, band, dance, permits, category timelines, hired-labor accountability
- **7/20/2016 9:00am Koulourakia Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **7/24/2016 Following Divine Liturgy Food/ Disposables Inventory (Kitchen)** Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone willing to help.  
 What do we want to accomplish? Count and organize on-site food and disposables.
- **8/16/2016 6:00pm Festival Meeting (Lounge): Marketing, Raffle, Friends of the Festival, Signage, Brochure**  
 Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone associated with marketing, promotions, social media, raffle, Friends of the Festival  
 What do we want to accomplish? Marketing budget decisions, marketing plan overview, website, FoF, raffle prizes, new signs, entrance brochure
- **8/23—8/25/2016 9:00am Baklava and Kataifi Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **8/30 and 8/31/2016 9:00am Tsoureki Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **9/13/2016 6:00pm Festival Meeting (Lounge): Finance, Gate, Admission Tickets, Gift Certificates, Parking Passes, Church Tours, Bookstore**  
 Open to all. Who do we need to attend? Anyone associated with finance, the bank, the counting room, cashiers, entrance gate, church office, church tours, bookstore  
 What do we want to accomplish? Debit/credit cards, banking procedures, registers, entrance procedures, ticket and passes printing, promotions distribution, who needs tickets/baked goods/other in exchange for donations, church tours schedule and procedures, bookstore needs, any area left unaddressed, finalizing and implementing previous decisions
- **9/15/2016 9:00am Galaktoboureko Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **9/18/2016 12:00pm Festival Meeting (Lunch Room, Ed. Bldg.): General Overview and Q&A**  
 Open to all. Who do we need to attend? All  
 What do we want to accomplish? Offer an overview of where the committee is at this point, what still needs to be accomplished, answer community questions.
- **9/21/2016 9:00am Diples Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **9/28 and 9/29/2016 9:00am Kourembiethes and Crescents Production (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **9/27, 9/29, 10/2—10/6/2016 9:00am Daily Festival Set-Up and Prep (Church Grounds)**
- **10/3—10/5/2016 9:00am Pastry Packaging (Large Hall)** Open to all.
- **10/7—10/9/2016 Phoenix Greek Festival (Church Grounds)**
- **10/10 and 10/11/2016 9:00am Festival Breakdown (Church Grounds)** Open to all over 18 (minors need to be accompanied by a parent)
- **10/16/2016 Following Divine Liturgy Festival Leftovers Sale and Buffet**
- **10/28/2016 Wrap-Up** First draft profit and loss statement due

Dates and times are subject to change. Announcements will be made through the church office and by email of any date or time change.

# OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

By Sandy Meris, President



Hello OPA Families! And happy Fall! By September we are in the full swing of being back to school and regular routines. With September comes the beginning of our ecclesiastical year, which means Sunday School, Greek School, Greek Dance, and Youth Groups. We have a full Fall schedule planned and we hope to see you and your kids at the upcoming OPA activities. So, get out your smart phones or planners and mark down these dates!

Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

Valley Orthodox Youth Fall Retreat

Jr. & Sr. GOYA

6:30pm at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

All Valley Orthodox Jr. & Sr. GOYAnS are invited to this retreat, which is being hosted by St. Katherine. Dinner and activities included.

Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

Holy Trinity Youth Kick Off Event

Hope & JOY and Jr. & Sr. GOYA

6:00pm at Holy Trinity's Speros Community Center

The groups will come together for dinner and prayer, then split up into their specific youth groups for activities and a group discussion with Father Apostolos.

Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Little Lambs Coffee

Little Lambs at Speros Community Center's Small Hall

All parents of babies through preschool age please join us in the Small Hall following Divine Liturgy for a special Coffee Hour just for you! (Feel free to bring the little ones along). Meet the new LL advisor, Jennifer Kourouglos, and get to know each other. Jennifer will talk about what fun and adorable things she has planned for Little Lambs.

October 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

Phoenix Greek Festival!!!

All OPA kids and families are busy performing in the dance group and working the various booths.

October 15<sup>th</sup>

Hope & Joy Activity and Jr. & Sr. GOYA Activity

November 12<sup>th</sup>

OPA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Dinner & Glendi for the whole family!

It's been 35 years since the creation of OPA and we are planning a spectacular celebration you won't want to miss! We will honor those who created OPA, the first camp, first dance group, etc. And we will celebrate our youth and families. This will be a night to remember!

November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>

"YES" FOCUS Weekend Event for Jr. & Sr. GOYA

November 19<sup>th</sup>

Hope & Joy Activity

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Day of Christmas Cheer (Little Lambs & Hope & Joy)

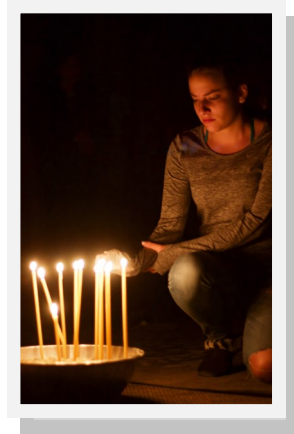
Christmas Party (Jr. & Sr. GOYA)





# All Saints Camp

We had an INCREDIBLE summer session this year. With over 100 campers and 30 staff from all over North America (as far as the East Coast and Canada), All Saints Camp was filled with incredible sessions, games, activities, devotionals, and so much more.



We were very blessed and very thankful for the staff. However, our clergy were imperative: Father Apostolos Hill, our Camp Executive Director, Father Andrew Barakos from Assumption in Scottsdale, Father Michael Pallad from St. Haralambos in Peoria, Father Earl Cantos from Saint Demetrios in Tucson, Father Jeffrey Frate from Saint George in Prescott, and Deacon Drew Maxwell from Assumption in Scottsdale. Our priests led our Orthodox Life sessions, heard our confessions, and loved and supported us throughout the entire week, and we are ever thankful!



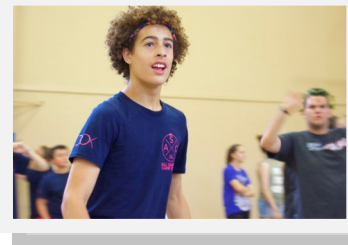
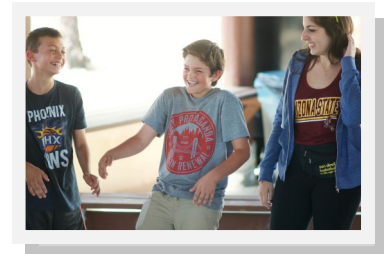
We also thank our program director, Jacob Saylor, and our activities director, Chris Fredericksen, for bringing their wisdom and knowledge to create this experience for our campers.



Lastly, we would like to thank all of the past staff, parents, campers, and anyone else who preceded this year and kept this program alive and thriving.

Thank you, and see you next year!

Evan Tsagaris  
Camp Administration Director



For information, please contact: [AllSaintsCampArizona@gmail.com](mailto:AllSaintsCampArizona@gmail.com), or visit our website: [AllSaintsCampArizona.org](http://AllSaintsCampArizona.org)

For pictures from our 2016 session, please follow this link to our Flickr account: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/142850662@N05/albums>

## Dance

We come together in our faith to pursue our love of dance, music, and the Greek culture!

Contact Niko at [holytrinityphoenixdance@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinityphoenixdance@gmail.com) for more information.



# Greek School

Kali Xronia!

Greek School will start mid-September on Wednesday nights from 5-7pm. The Cultural Program will be every 3rd Wednesday from 6-7pm.



I am looking forward to having new kids attend and I ensure you your child can achieve their highest potential. I have developed a new curriculum for the 3-year old class, 4-year old class, and the 5- to 7-year olds class. I recognize that in order to be successful in Greek school, your child needs support from both the home and school. However, you may not know how to help. I have a partnership with Papaloizos Publication in an interactive computer program with dozens of learning games that will make learning sounds, words, phrases, and grammar so much more fun. **But, Greek School is in need of laptops and computers.** We don't have the ability for a white board, but can still broadcast the lessons on a computer and laptop. IF you have a computer or laptop you are not using, please think of donating it to Greek School.

I have a wonderful new teacher, Gabriella Papatzimas, who will be joining Greek School and I feel privileged to have her as part of this school family.

We are still looking for one more teacher to teach Greek. If you or someone you know would like to teach in a super fun environment for two hours a week, please contact me.

I thank you for your support and I look forward to meeting you and your child.

Sincerely,  
Irene Dartoozos-Mackos  
Greek School Director  
[airinie@gmail.com](mailto:airinie@gmail.com)

## Lost & Found

Please check the Lost & Found in the Church Office for items that might be yours.



## Altar Service

Interested in learning more about serving on the altar? Contact

Chris Francis [battersbox7@yahoo.com](mailto:battersbox7@yahoo.com), David Haag [davidmhaag@yahoo.com](mailto:davidmhaag@yahoo.com) or Deacon John Thrasher [thrasheraz@cox.net](mailto:thrasheraz@cox.net)

# Maids of Athena

Chapter 158 Aphrodite Irene

More Photos



The Maids of Athena is an international philanthropic and fraternal organization. Founded in 1930, the sisterhood quickly grew among young Greek women and today claims chapters across the US, Canada and Greece. The Maids strive to achieve the ideals of Athena, as well as promote the Principles of our Order: Sisterhood, Service, Citizenship, Hellenism, Family and Arete.

The sisters of Aphrodite Irene #158 celebrated their one year anniversary in December. As a young chapter, Aphrodite Irene #158 is already setting goals and working together to accomplish them.

Awards won by Chapter 158 at the 2016 Supreme Convention in Las Vegas.

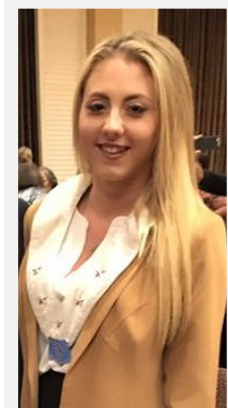


This year, the sisters held a toy and book drive which garnered over 60 toys and 40 books that were then wrapped and donated to a local children's orphanage. Keeping in the holiday spirit, Aphrodite Irene #158 also individually wrapped and labeled 400 candy canes and passed them out to the parishioners of our church community. In the summer, Aphrodite Irene #158 joined the Daughters of Penelope in a volunteer trip to Mexico, where they donated food, clothes and supplies to the Esperanza Children's Home in Rocky Point.

As part of the President's Project, the girls raised over \$400.00 for Melissa Orphanage. The girls also raised over \$500.00 towards the Maids of Athena National Project, the rebuilding of Saint Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero.

As a chapter, the girls have completed over 1,200 combined hours of community service where 160 of those hours were at Holy Trinity Cathedral's Greek Festival.

This year at the AHEPA Supreme Convention, held in Las Vegas, the chapter was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the MOA Photo Challenge. This wasn't the end of their accomplishments. Past President, Gabriella Papatzimas was honored with receiving the award, 'Maid of the Year', which is awarded to the sister who encompasses the ideals of Athena (Sisterhood, Service, Citizenship, Hellenism, Family and Arete).



Maid of the Year  
Gabriella  
Papatzimas



Newly elected Grand Governor Gabriella Papatzimas is sworn in (far left)

Past President Gabriella Papatzimas was also elected as the newest Grand Governor for the Maids of Athena National Grand Lodge. "Being a part of this amazing organization has given me the opportunity to be a leader of a group of young ladies whom I hope to inspire to incorporate philanthropy, sisterhood and service into their lives. In the short time that I have been a member of the Maids of Athena, I feel blessed to have met many exceptional young ladies from different parts of this country, that I now consider family. First you're a part of it, then it becomes a part of you," says Grand Governor Gabriella Papatzimas.

If you are between the ages of 14-28 and are interested in Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy and Friendship, checkout the many opportunities the Maids of Athena has in store for you. Please contact Gabriella Papatzimas (602) 810-9522 or [bella92@cox.net](mailto:bella92@cox.net) for more information. You can even check out our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/MOAAphroditeIrene/>

# College Students at UofA

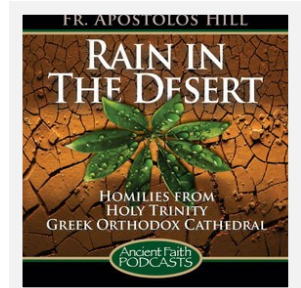
Any college students that are attending U of A or Pima College are invited to join Tucson OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship). We are excited to continue this archdiocese ministry to keep Orthodox college kids that are away from home connected to each other through OCF activities. Please contact Jackie Goodson at [OCF@StDemTucson.org](mailto:OCF@StDemTucson.org) or 520-247-1053. We're also on [facebook.com/OCFTucson](https://www.facebook.com/OCFTucson).

## Rain In The Desert

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

Link to recordings of Father's sermons:

<http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain>



**Do you get OPA emails?** OPA communicates primarily through email via our e-newsletter. To stay informed of all of the youth, parent, and family happenings at Holy Trinity, make sure you are receiving these emailed newsletters. It's easy, just email your information to [sandymeris@yahoo.com](mailto:sandymeris@yahoo.com) and we'll get you added to the list.

## Desert Springs Subscription Form

### Desert Springs Subscription

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$12 for four issues (September, October, November, and December)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to the Church Office or contact Kristen at 602-332-8809 or [kvasilarakos@cox.net](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net) for more information.

Office use: Payment received on (date) \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

# 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).



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.

## Sample Size

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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

Calendar is subject to change.