

Desert Springs

September 2020
Volume 5 Issue 8



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

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Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades
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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Desert Springs Deadline
The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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2019 Parish Council Members
Jim Manelis—President
Paul Katsenes—Vice President
Connie Contes—Treasurer
Dina Anagnopoulos—Assistant Treasurer
Andy Fourlis—Secretary
Charlie De Moss, Sandy Meris,
Socrates Papadopoulos,
Adam Venetis

Holy Trinity Cathedral Website
www.holymtrinityphx.org — NEW!

Metropolis of San Francisco Website
www.SanFran.goarch.org

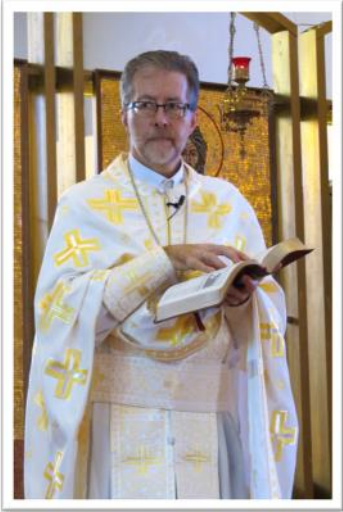
Archdiocese Website
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Organization Contacts

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- **Epistle Readers** — Presvytera Denise Hill: denkevhill83@gmail.com
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- **Feed Those in Need** — Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net
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- **Hellenic Museum** — Bessie Hotis: call 602-953-1913
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- **Little Lambs** — Angela Scopelianos: angelagarozzo@gmail.com
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- **Stewardship** — Sandy Meris: sandymeris@yahoo.com
- **Sunday School** — Kalli Schneider: kalliopischneider@gmail.com
- **Wedding Coordinator** — Terri Alexon: terrialexon@gmail.com
- **YAL 19-29** — Elliot Staikos: text 717-682-0550
- **YAL 30-49** — Nick Papas: npapas@yahoo.com

Message from Father Apostolos

Morning Prayers



As the COVID crisis emerged, I felt prompted to open a forum on Instagram Live for daily prayers and for short encouragements. My morning prayers include two small prayers from St. Philaret of Moscow and from the Holy Elders of the Optina Monastery; short prayers which contain simple and yet profound insights into the Life in Christ.

St. Philaret perfectly describes how ill-equipped we often feel when we approach God in prayer, writing: *"I know not what I ought to ask of You... for a cross I dare not ask, nor for consolation, I dare only to stand in Your presence."*

And the Optina Elders end their glowing prayer of perfect humility with this line: *"Guide my will and teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to suffer, to forgive and to love."* These twin statements bracket for us the essential meaning of the holy season of the Cross we now enter in this new month of September.

It is natural for us to imagine grandiose and heroic sacrifices when we encounter the Holy Cross of Christ. Our imaginations run to gripping accounts of the Holy Martyrs whose self-offering light the path that leads us to the Heavenly Kingdom. But the Way of the Cross for most of us will be far less dramatic and, hence, easily overlooked.

These last several months have thrown many challenges in our paths, some truly monumental as for those afflicted with the COVID virus, those whose lives were claimed by it and their family members who now grieve the untimely passing of their loved ones. Others have lost businesses and livelihoods and now struggle to provide for themselves and their families with roughly a third of Americans now unable to make rent or mortgage payments.

But for a great many of us, no such sacrifices have been asked. Our challenges have involved making smaller offerings; missing the Divine Services as our parishes were shuttered to help contain the virus' spread, adhering to and embracing the hygienic protocols established to thwart its rapid spread, and remaining home throughout various periods of curfews and lockdowns.

As St. Philaret's prayer records, we *"dare not ask for a cross,"* but we find ourselves bearing one anyway. Indeed, to be a follower of and a believer in Jesus Christ requires this. *"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me"* are the introductory words read over every living soul brought into the Orthodox Church through holy baptism and chrismation. A life without a cross is not a Christian life.

Yet we are gravely challenged in the hubris of our times and the voices which whisper to us that all suffering is bad and must be avoided and where shameless hucksters and false preachers delude the unwary with promises of cheap grace and a painless life filled with material abundance. Seduced by such illicit messages, we may find ourselves filled with bitterness and outrage when the unavoidable sufferings common to all of humanity appear.

And as the Optina Elders so eloquently pray, we too must ask God to "guide our will," and to "teach us

Message continued on page 4

Desert Springs September 2020

how to suffer" in the challenges which lie ahead as the various crises, of which the virus is only one, rake our landscape. Holy Scripture contains numerous encouragements and warnings that suffering cannot be avoided, as in Jesus' declaration, *"In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world."*

Only in the Light of the Cross can suffering become for us a means of redemption and salvation. Only by perceiving in the Holy Cross of Christ the dagger thrust into the earth which stabbed the heart of the kingdom of Hades can our "light, momentary afflictions" as St. Paul described them, be filled with light and joy and meaning.

How we experience whatever further sacrifices we may be called upon to make will depend upon the presence or absence of this "Cross mentality" in our hearts. With humility, patience, and contrition, our suffering can "produce within us far more eternal weight of glory," as St. Paul wrote.

Without this "Cross mentality" residing in our hearts, our unchallenged pride will blanch at the merest inconvenience as we descend into childish sloganeering, trumpeting our rights and blind to the suffering of others. But embraced with purity of heart, the Holy Cross of Christ is the weapon against which the forces of darkness cannot prevail.

We "dare not ask for a cross," but we can submit to carry the one assigned to us, confident that we do not carry it alone, but with the strength and grace of the One who carried His for the salvation of all.

Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean



Light a Virtual Candle

[Light a Candle](#)



In this time more than ever we need prayer.
For those not able to come to the Cathedral yet,
we have set up this ability to light a candle virtually!

Please click the link above and follow the instructions.
Enter your name and the names of those you wish prayed for
in the PayPal "Notes" section,
and Father Apostolos or Alexander
will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



STEWARDSHIP IS MORE THAN JUST FINANCIAL GIVING The New Ecclesiastical Year is the Best Time to Reconnect and Recommit

September is here and the summer months behind us. Kids are back in school, in some form or another, and though some people are still working from home, others have gone back to the office. Although we are able to attend Liturgy in person again, our ministries are still not authorized by the Metropolis to begin meeting and gathering at church yet.

But let us look to the future and remain hopeful! We are getting closer and closer to our ministries coming together in fellowship. And until that happens, the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year is always the best time to take stock, reconnect and recommit to the church.

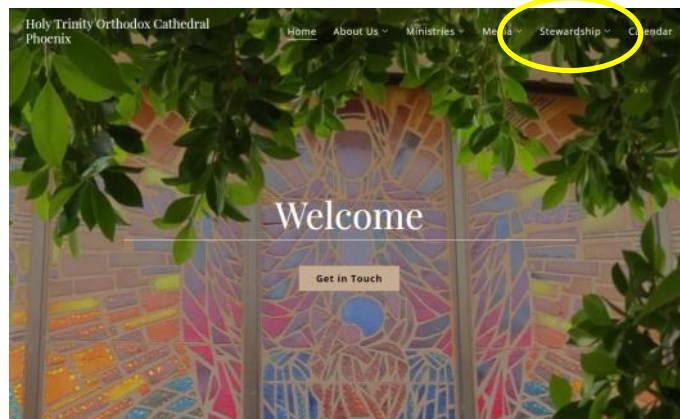
Have you given any thought to joining a new ministry? Part of stewardship and our commitment to the church does not end with placing a monetary donation in the offering tray on Sundays. Rather, that is only the beginning. We must all participate in the various ministries that answer God's calling to minister to the poor (Philoptochos) or spread the word (Sunday School), just to name a few.

And even though we are unable to host our annual Ministry Sunday, where each ministry hosts a table during Coffee Hour, allowing our parishioners to learn about and sign up to participate in our ministries, becoming a member and getting involved is still possible.

We encourage everyone to consider how we can all become more involved in our church ministries.

And if you still have not yet become a 2020 Steward, there is still time. Simply fill out your Pledge Card by going to: www.holytrinityphx.org, click on "Stewardship" in the upper right-hand corner and fill out your card. And there is no better time to become an on-line giver by joining WeShare. Setting up these automated payments is quick and easy. Simply click on WeShare on the Church website and fill out the information. Become a 2020 Steward in good standing today!

Go to www.holytrinityphx.org and then click on **Stewardship**



PARISH ASSEMBLY

Sunday, September 13, 2020

12:00 pm

All parishioners are invited to join us for a Parish Assembly meeting **via Zoom**. This is an informational meeting where we will discuss and share the current financial picture of the Cathedral, our ministries, Stewardship, Liturgical services and overall general state of our parish.

Please continue to watch your email as we will send out again the Powerpoint presentation document that will be discussed at the meeting. We will also include the instructions and log-in information to attend the meeting. Until then, we encourage you to download Zoom for free on your computer or device.

We urge all of our parishioners to join us for this important informational meeting. We hope to see everyone then.

House of Stewards

Through 09/01/2020

Panagiota Agelakos
Peter & Sarah Agnos
Dorothy Ainslie
Evan & Terri Alexon
Nikki C. Anest
Bettina Angelos
John & Sandy Annos
John Antoniadis
Elaine Apostle
Sheila Asala
Chris & Angie Athens
Helen & Constantine Balanis
Diana Balos
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Alexandra Bates
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Vicki & Dan Bichakas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis
Vasiliki Bilitsis
Helen A. Bixenman
Anthony Boyd
Oscar & Heidi Bracamonte
Helen & James Bruno
Chris & Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Kathrene Carras
Frank & Alice Carris
Dawn & Casey Cartier
Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller
George & Alexandra Chondropoulos
Harriet Chotras
Jim Chotras
Athena Choukalas
Kim & Pete Choukalas
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke
Martha Rose Columbus
Andrew & Mara Contes
Connie & James Contes
Ed & Angie Cooper
Jean & John Dal Pan
Nick & Sharon Daniolos
Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos
Patty Davis
Rebecca Davis
Len & Elaine Debickero
Hercules Alexander Dellas
Patrick & Karla Delord
Joanne Demangus
Tom & Irene Demas
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Bill C. DeMoss
Charles C. DeMoss
Chris DeMoss
John & Marjorie DeMoss
Michael & Maureen DeMoss
Ruth & Basil Denaxas
Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis
Homer & Doree Drakos

Stanley & Fran Drozd
Denise Dye
Caroline & Kostas Economopoulos
Dena & Christos Economopoulos
James Elam & Lisa Glitsos Elam
Alexander & Laura Eliades
Ed & Katherine Fancher
Jeff & Judy Farr
Greg Hernandez
Helen Fernandez
Athanasios & Georgia Fourlis
Ted & Andi Fourlis
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel
Georgana Frieh
George & Julie Froumis
Chris & Catherine Frye
Niki Ganolis
Demetra Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Pamela Georgelos
Dinos & Koula Georges
Andreanna Georgiou
Christina & Thomas Georgiou
John Giannopoulos
Constantine & Kristen Ginakes
John & Polly Ginakes
Stella Glitsos
Jeremy & Athena Gonzales
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
Mary Haidos
Donald Hall
Terry G. Harper
Patsy Harris
Stephanie & Gregory Heckel
Gregory Hill
Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill
Bessie Hotis
Pavlos Kairis
Linda & James Kalivas
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos
Roula & Basilis Kaneris
Dena & Nick Kantaros
Jean Kantaros & William King
William & Harriet Kapolis
Christina Karalekas
Virginia S. Karegeannes
Julie Karoutas
James & Joann Karros
Leonidas & Fotini Katrakis
Christos & Kelley Katsanos
Niki & George Katsaros
Mary & John Katsenes
Lori & Paul Katsenes
Thomas Katsenes
Helen Katsuftrakis
Poppy & Jim Kavouris
Fanny Kechajias
Cathy Keyser



Virginia & Ronald Kidd
Emily Kimmell
Maria Kompos
Spiros & Maria Kontakis
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros
Angela & Dean Koumontzis
Nikolas Koziris
Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Tammy Kretsedemas
James & JoAnne Kruljac
Debbie Kunkel
Andreas & Cindy Kyprianou
Tassie Ladas
Anastasia Laitsas
John & Angie Lambrou
Judith Lamond
Mary & Elias Lamos
Mary Leventi
Lea & Mike Linaris
Gregory Lizanich
Efterpi Lourias
Stephanie & James Machas
Maria & Martin Maciejewski
Daniel MacInnis
Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitis
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Julie & Felix Mamani
Donna & Jim Manelis
Bette Maniatis
Maria Maniatis
Anna Manos
Rina & William Marinakos
Douglas & Anna Markakis
Leonard & Mary Lou Mastorakos
Steve & Mari Mastorakos
Katerina Matheos
Stefan D. Matheos
Nick Maydanis
Pamela Maydanis
Peter & Chriss Maydanis
Angela & Chris Mead

House of Stewards

Continued from page 7

Joanne Meris
Sandy & Will Meris
Anthony & Tania Miaoulis
Angie Miller
Jean & William Miller
Paul N. Miller
Andrew Mitchell
Helen & Philip Mitchell
Spyro & Effie Mousses
William & Hannah Neal
Matthew & Sophia Neumann
Jerry & Kathy New
Edna Nicely & Peter Michas
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
Anthony Nicoluzakis
AnnaMarie Nieblas
Angelo & Marta Ntatsos
Jeremy & Anastasia Oxley
Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Alexander & Alexia Panagiotakopoulos
Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou
Sofia Panagiotoglou
Bill & Soula Papadopoulos
Chrysoula & George Papadopoulos
Stephanie & Socrates Papadopoulos
Anastasia Papaioannou
Alex & Olga Papamatheakis
Betty Papas
Nicholas J. Papas
Rita & Spyros Papaspyrou
Nicholas & Stacy Papatzimas
Vassilia Papatzimas
Angeline Pappas
Irene Pappas
John J. & Andrea M. Pappas
Daniel & Anna Pardhe
Athena Parmenter
Amy Paul
Christiana Paviet
Katherine & Kai-Henning Pedersen
Dina & John Pesognelli
Fotini & Dean Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Kathy & Bill Petsas
Nicholas & Laurel Petsas
Michael & TeAnn Philippis
Brian & Athena Pickett
Georgia Pikoula
Mary & Andreas Poulakidas
Kay & George Poulos
Panagiotos & Anthipe Pries
Chris & Juli Pritsos
Nicole & David Pyle
Bertha Quinn
Lydia Rabbitt
Cal & Angela Raup
Alex & Rose Rentzis

Milton & Voula Rentzis
Maria & Curt Ruttle
Lois Sakkas
Dimitra & James Sampson
Paul Sarantes
John Schneider
Warren & Kalli Schneider
Diane Sedlacek
Chris & Terry Seretis
George & Traci Sgouros
John Siavelis
Elyse Sioles
Robert & Donna Sioles
Evi & George Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
John Jr. & Toni Smirniotis
Constantin Solomon
Pam & Jim Solomon
Carol Sowers
Angelo & Marie Spanos
Rachel & Leo Speliopoulos
James & Christina Speros
Elias & Theodora Staikos
Kathryn & Jim Stamadianos
Nitsa & Gerry Stamatelatos
Christine & Andrew Stamatis
Mihai Sutu
Tony Tangalos
Despina Tavlarides
William & Rebecca Tavlarides
Nick & Effie Theodore
Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos
Jim G. Thomas
John & Teresa Thomas
Dcn. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher
Kathy & Thad Tropea
Stella & Constantine Tsantilas
Dimitrios Tsioutsopoulos

Katherine & Constantine Tzavaras
Daniel Valenzuela
Peter & Lindsay Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarakos
Argyro Vasquez
Adam & Lea Venetis
Connie & George Venetis
Stephanie Venetis
Peter & Maria Vlahos
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Steve & Mary Vrahas
Nicole Wakamatsu
Ken & Angela Walker
Catherine Wallerich
Jaclyn & Matthew Walsh
Paula & Colin Walsh
Paulina & Doug Watson
Garrett Widner
Dennis & Rose Wolfe
Christina & Michael Wombacher
Richard & Katina Wood
Niki & George Zafiraki
Anthony & Karen Zaman
Eugenia & Dimitrios Zannis
Katherine & George Zannis
Zella Zannis
Evangelia Zikos
Kostas & Margarita Zistas
Christina & Michael Zistatsis
Eleanna Zistatsis
Dimitrios Zistatsis
Ann Zoukis



Endowment Fund

✝ THE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT FUND ✝

The Holy Trinity Endowment Fund was established in 1992 with an initial deposit of \$2,000. The goal was to build the Endowment Fund whereby the interest and appreciation would one day provide sufficient income so Holy Trinity would no longer be totally dependent on an annual festival to supplement stewardship income.

The Endowment Fund is obligated to preserve the donor's contributions such that the principal will remain inviolate and be held in perpetuity by the Church. The funds are prudently managed by the investment committee, which reports to the Parish Council. The investment committee only approves withdrawals from the earnings and appreciation, over and above the donor's contributions, and are used only to benefit Holy Trinity and its ministries.

Over the course of the past twenty-seven years the committee has held steadfast to this mission, and as a result, generous donors from our Church, desiring to leave a legacy in perpetuity for their family, have made contributions totaling \$562,000.

This is your opportunity to put your lifetime thumbprint in the history of Holy Trinity Cathedral.

We have been blessed by the generosity and foresight of the individuals and families listed below. We benefit today from their kindness and vision. If your circumstances allow you to give a gift above and beyond your annual stewardship commitment, then please take this occasion to join the others in creating a legacy by pledging your gift to Holy Trinity Cathedral's perpetual Endowment Fund. Gifts of \$10,000 or more will be separately listed along with others who have reached that level.

Your gift, no matter the amount will be combined into the general endowment fund, and will be greatly appreciated.

Endowment gifts over \$10,000

Gabriel N. & Helen H. Papagallos
The DeMoss Families
IMO+ Mary Montague
IMO+ John G. Zannaras
Steve & Judith Vrahas
Ange & Alex J, Pappas

Faye Boukas
Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry
George & Koula Cheros
IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes
John & Mary Katsenes

George & Ann Souvall
IMO+ Tasia Pritchard
John George Thomas
Steve & Joan Vrahas
James & Connie Coin Contes

Endowment Fund donations over \$1,000

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss

In Memory gifts over \$1,000

IMO+ Stacy Hotis
IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlarides
IMO+ Athena Choukalas
IMO+ Chris Gabriel
IMO+ Milton & Harriett Sioles

IMO+ Danny Speros
IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos
IMO+ Dr. Hugo Rangel
IMO+ Koula Triantafyllou

IMO+ Mark Sprintz
IMO+ Tom Contes
IMO+ John Sgouros
IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniares

Endowment Fund

GIFT DONATION FORM

Please list my endowment gift as follows: _____

Here is my Endowment gift, which I may add to, of \$ _____

I plan to include the Holy Trinity Endowment fund in my Will ____, my Living Trust ____, or TOD* ____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Donor, please sign and keep a copy for your records

*TOD = transfer on death

All gifts will be preserved in the archives of Holy Trinity Cathedral

Gifts of \$10,000 or more may be made over a three year period.

Thank You, and + God Bless You + for your generosity.
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral + 1973 E Maryland Phoenix AZ 85016

Demonstrating Making the Cross

on Instagram during an afternoon lesson



Screenshots by Gina Graham

The daily 3:00pm Instagram sessions return on 09/08/2020!

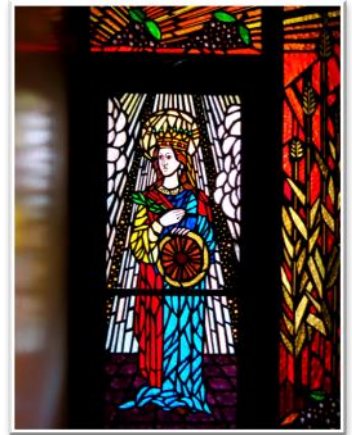
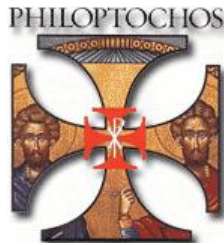
Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, President

"FRIENDS OF THE POOR"

An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!



St. Katherine faceted glass icon in the south wing of the Narthex.

The September Meeting is on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

The meeting will be by ZOOM, with the ability to CALL IN BY PHONE if you do not have a computer or do not want to log into the virtual meeting.

If you have questions on HOW to participate, please contact Kristen Vasilarakos at 602-332-8809 as soon as possible.

Interested in participating? Contact Alex Anagnopoulos at 602-738-6053 for more information.

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2020—2021

We are the right hand of the Church! We would like you to know that membership to Philoptochos *IS IMPORTANT* for our community, the Archdiocese and Metropolis.

Invitation to Philoptochos:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT: _____

\$15 will be sent to the Archdiocese and \$15 to the Metropolis. **Any amount over \$30 will be retained for our chapter charities and obligations.**

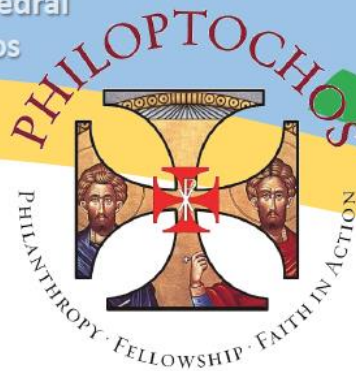
Mail your membership to:

St. Katherine's Philoptochos of HTC Membership 2019, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos Project

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
St. Katherine Chapter Philoptochos
1973 E. Maryland Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Alex Anagnopoulos, President



Holy Trinity Cathedral's Philoptochos has taken on a *local* challenge:
assisting with stocking supplies for an elementary school in need in our 85016 zip code.

The school is online through at least October, but there is a vital need for teachers and staff to ready students for both at-home learning and the eventual return to the classroom.

To start, we have narrowed down donations to these categories:

- **Hand Sanitizer**—any size bottles
- **Pencils, colored pencils, and crayons** to fill 36 small shoe box-sized containers
- **Non-Perishable Snack Foods** in individual-sized packaging
(Expiration dates must be at least 2021)
Examples: fruit bars, fruit or gelatin cups, applesauce cups, pretzels, cracker sandwiches, cheese & cracker/pretzel combo
- **Backpack FILL-UP!** 60 backpacks were donated—let's fill each with basic school items!
Examples: variety of paper, notebooks, binders, scissors, erasers, glue, **child masks**
- **Cash contributions** to purchase the above items



Collection points: Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Sprouts Parking Lot, 16th Street and Glendale Avenue—look for the signs!

Saturday, September 19, 2020 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Sprouts Parking Lot, 16th Street and Glendale Avenue—look for the signs!

Sundays through September 27, 2020, outside the Narthex

Liturgical Services will continue to be live streamed
by Father Apostolos and Alexander until further notice.

LIVE-STREAMING INSTRUCTIONS

If you have Facebook, “Like” our Facebook page [Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral - Phoenix, AZ](#)
You will receive updates when we are live.

If you DO NOT have Facebook, go to holytrinityphx.org and follow the instructions on the home page.

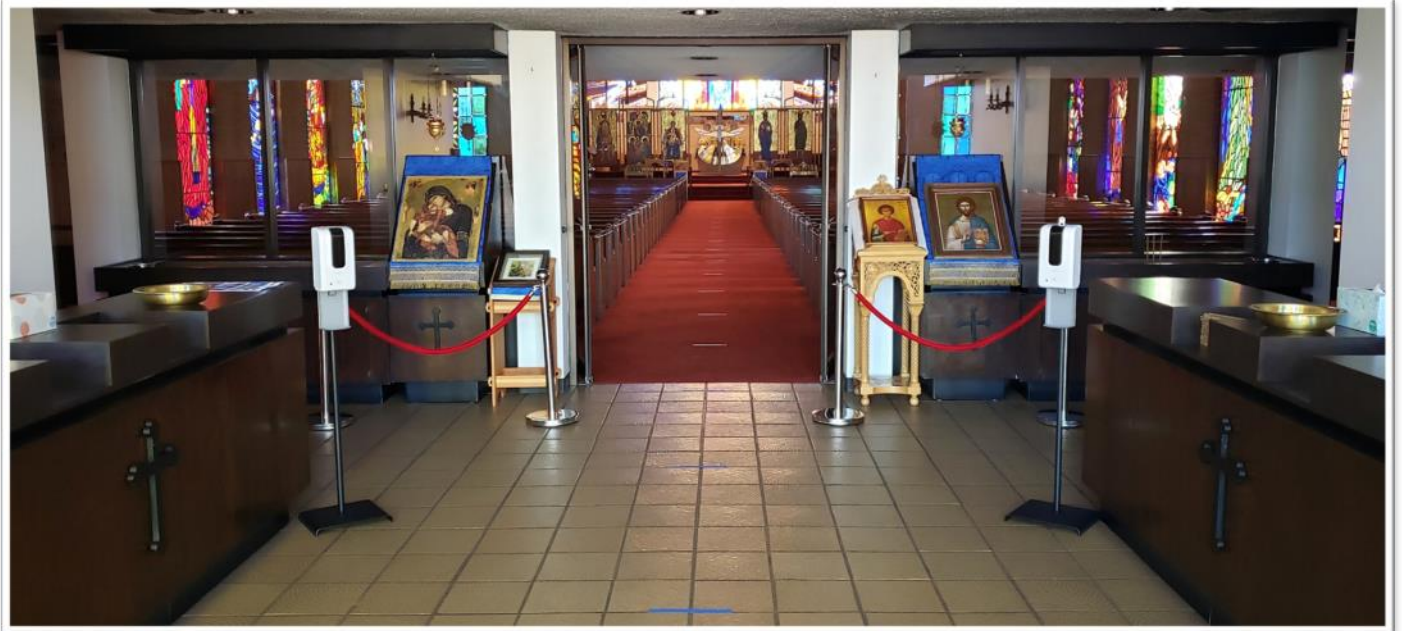


Photo by Paul Valonis

Desert Springs Issues Available to Our Seniors

or the computer-challenged!

In an effort to reach our whole Parish Community with Cathedral news, issues of the Desert Springs will be available for FREE to those in our community who do not own or use a computer, tablet, or smart phone or would prefer to read the news in hard-copy print. Submit names to the Church Office or call or text Kristen at 602-332-8809.

Desert Springs Subscription

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

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Return this form to the Church Office or
contact Kristen at 602-332-8809

09/01/2020 Updates

Beloved Holy Trinity Family,

HOLY COMMUNION

What a joy it was to see those of you who partook of Holy Communion last Sunday at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy! How much taller our young ones have grown since mid-March! The process went very smoothly and it was an emotional experience simply to be together again after so long an exile!



EXPANDING TO 75 ATTENDEES FOR LITURGY

Beginning Sunday, September 6th we are permitted to have 75 parishioners attend Divine Liturgy. *We cannot stress enough the importance of registering to attend services.* Please click on the link below and fill out the required information.

In order for us to be able to remain open, we all must adhere to and follow the guidelines set forth such as:

- * Registering and filling out the requested information
- * Wearing a mask upon entering the Cathedral
- * Using hand sanitizer
- * Remain six feet apart from others
- * Only sit with those living in your household

SIGN UP HERE: <https://forms.gle/iafC8e7FV559ZDcN8>

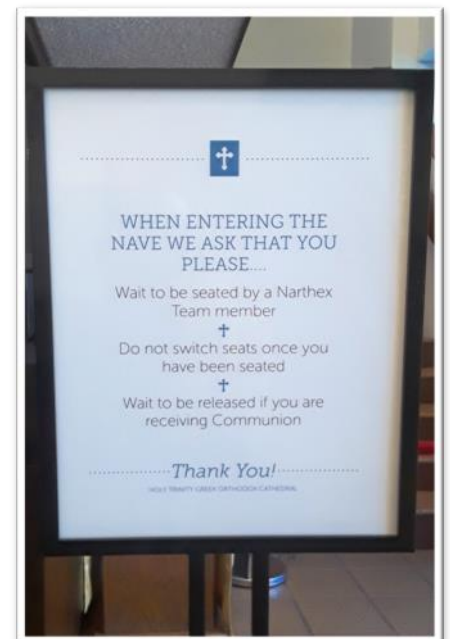
PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

Please join us for an Informational Parish Assembly on Sunday, September 13th at 12:00pm.

This meeting will be held via Zoom. **Please watch for additional emails** forthcoming with the PowerPoint document that will be discussed at the meeting. In addition, we will provide log-in instructions to attend the meeting.

See you Sunday!

Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean



Music Ministry

Terri Alexon, Director

*Praise the Lord! Praise Him in His sanctuary, praise Him in His mighty Heavens.
Psalm 150:1*

Even though there were a limited number of the faithful, it was wonderful being able to witness the offering of the Eucharist and reopening of the physical building at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral!

In keeping in touch with choir members, I have learned how much each person misses being able to fully participate in the Divine Liturgy as a congregation. Indeed, it feels like we have been in exile!

Once such individual who is anxiously awaiting a return of the Cathedral Choir is longtime member Mary Louise Theodoropoulos.

Mary Louise was born and raised in Phoenix with her parents being one of the original founders of our beloved Cathedral. As a teenager, she joined the Cathedral Choir and eventually settled in as a dedicated alto singer ever since.



Besides the Choir, Mary Louise has fulfilled many important roles at our Cathedral. Some of her most notable contributions include serving on the Parish Council, being President of Philoptochos for many years as well as being one of the founders of O.P.A. (Orthodox Parents Association). And at the Greater Phoenix Greek Festival, Mary Louise is a fixture at the t-shirt booth.

When she's not working at the church, Mary Louise can found playing board games, especially cards. One of Mary Louise's daughters, Sandy Meris, goes on to say: "Besides the Church and Choir, my mom's greatest love is her family." As a mother of three children, Mary Louise ushered them to various school sports and activities, including church, and she continues that dedication to family with her five grandchildren.

Finally, while raising a family and being active at the Cathedral, Mary Louise found time to become a tremendous cook, making from scratch meatballs, baklava, pastisio and other dishes for the family restaurant, J.P. McGurkee's Italian Kitchen of Phoenix, along side her husband of 52 years, Gus. She is most famous, however, for her delicious Greek salad dressing. Hmmm. Wish we could bottle it!

On behalf of the Cathedral Choir, we look forward to seeing everyone again without masks and singing during Divine Liturgy some time in the not-so-distant future. Until then, Κύριε Ελίσσον!



Father on Instagram



St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Rita Papaspyrou

The month of September gives us the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on September 14



The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it.

The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.



Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher



Holy Trinity Greek
&
Heritage School of Phoenix

ZOOM'ing through Greece



FAMILY CULTURAL NIGHT

Get your passports ready and join the Greek School every third Wednesday of the month for a fun family adventure to Greece. The 2-hour trip will include a family cooking class, arts and crafts with a cultural lesson, all through ZOOM. A special package with essentials (mason jar of dry ingredients/recipe/craft materials) will be delivered to each child, monthly.

8 Greek Adventures

Cost: \$150 per family

Please contact for more information
Irene Dartoozos-Mackos
Phxgreeksschool@gmail.com



Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher

REGISTER BY AUGUST 15, 2020

Contact PHXGreekschool@gmail.com

Hello ZOOM'ing through Greece Parents!

Gabby and I are excited about teaching this year's curriculum! We have some creative and fun activities in store. Each month your child will receive a package from us.

Please fill out the attached registration form and return by August 15, 2020. A check can be mailed to me or given to Gabby or me on our 1st delivery!

Hope to receive your form soon.

Best regards,
Irene and Gabby

GREEK SCHOOL

ZOOM'ING THROUGH GREECE

**STARTS
SEPTEMBER 9TH**

INTERACTIVE

Fall Greek School will include 10 language classes and 4 cultural classes starting September 9th via ZOOM. Spring semester, 12 language and 4 cultural, will be re-evaluated in January.



Cultural Classes

Get your passports ready every third Wednesday a fun family adventure to Greece. The 2-hour trip will include a family cooking class, arts and crafts and cultural lesson, all through ZOOM. A special package with essentials

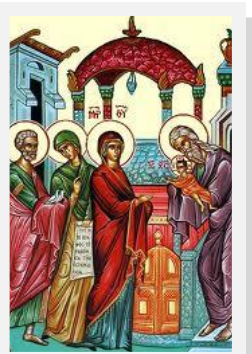
Contact

*Irene Dartoozos-Mackos,
Volunteer Greek School Director
Phxgreekschool@gmail.com*

Our Church Family

40 Day Blessings

“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



08/08/2020

Aidan Derick, son of
Angela & Kenneth Walker
God's Blessings be upon him.

08/16/2020

William Nicholas, son of
Laurel & Nicholas Petsas
God's Blessings be upon him.

Baptism

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” Galatians 3:27



08/08/2020

Aiden Derick Walker
Sponsors: Despina Tavlarides
& Theodore Tavlarides
God's Blessings be upon him.

Chrismations

07/23/2020

Hannah Neal
Sponsor: Angie Cooper
God's Blessings be upon her.

08/30/2020

Angela Scopelianos
Sponsor: Margaret Scopelianos
God's Blessings be upon her.

08/30/2020

Alexander Harding
Sponsor: Stanley Pappas
God's Blessings be upon him.

Our Church Family

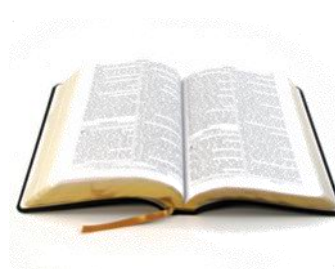
Funeral

“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

08/04/2020

Mason Alexander Rodriguez
May his memory be eternal.



Follow Holy Trinity Cathedral on Facebook

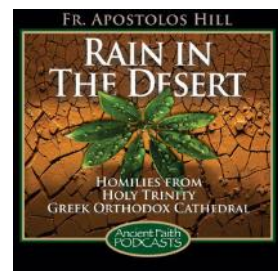
The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of many of our services.



Rain In The Desert

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

Sermons can also be found on the Cathedral website at www.holytrinityphx.org.



Holy Trinity Academy

Juli Pritsos, Director

My Wish for You

My Sweet Littles,

My wish for you is joy and love, kindness and patience too. You are smart and amazing and can be anything you want if you try and work hard. Remember your talents and tools to succeed as you grow into Middles and then off to Bigs. May your path be true and know that you are truly in my heart today, tomorrow and always.

*With all my love,
Mrs. Juli*



Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners
and their guests



Dear Desert Diamonds
and Friends,

See you soon!

With Christ's love,

Julie Karoutas

email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com

cell: 623-313-8720 call or text

Maintenance Corner

Questions?

Have items to donate?

Want to volunteer your time?



Contact:

Ted Furlis

Peter Bilitsis

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Maintenance Committee

602-625-8835

htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com

Holy Trinity Sunday School

is looking for parents and young adults to teach our youth when Sunday School resumes. This is a great opportunity to ensure our youth grow up knowing their Orthodox faith.

If interested, please contact
Kalli Schneider:

kalliopischneider@gmail.com



AHEPA Chapter 219



OUR NEXT MEETING

PENDING HEALTH DIRECTIVES

Thursday
September 17
6:30 pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
JAMES A SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER
1973 E. MARYLAND AVE.
PHOENIX, AZ

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? CONTACT
STEVE LEMERE
770-990-6825

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Dianna Scaccia, Co-President
Paulina Watson, Co-President



Are you getting the weekly
OPA Newsletter?

OPA communicates primarily through email,
via our email newsletter.

To stay informed on all of the
youth, parent, and family happenings at Holy Trinity,
sign up today.

It's easy, just email your information
cjecomom@gmail.com,
and we'll get you added to list!

Paulina Watson
602-740-9350
Paulinawatson25@gmail.com

Dianna Scaccia
602-323-4615
discaccia@gmail.com



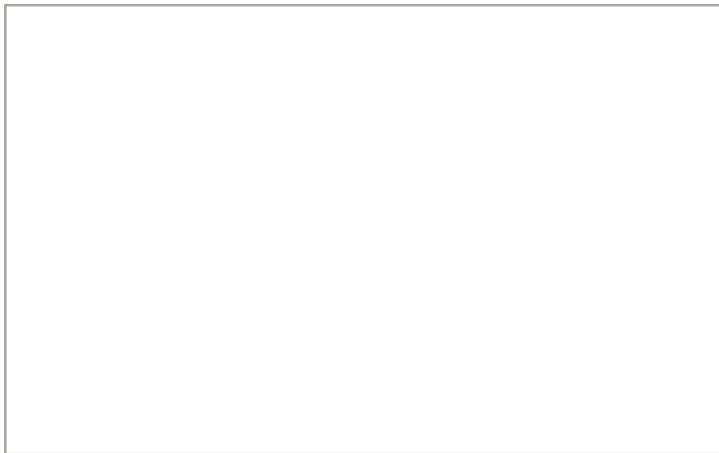
Want to get involved?
The Little Lambs Youth Group
is looking for an energetic parent or young adult
that would like to assist for the
2020-21 Activity Year.

Little Lambs Group = newborns to Kindergarten

If interested, please contact Angela Scopelianos
angelagarozzo@gmail.com or (913) 638-5991

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 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: _____