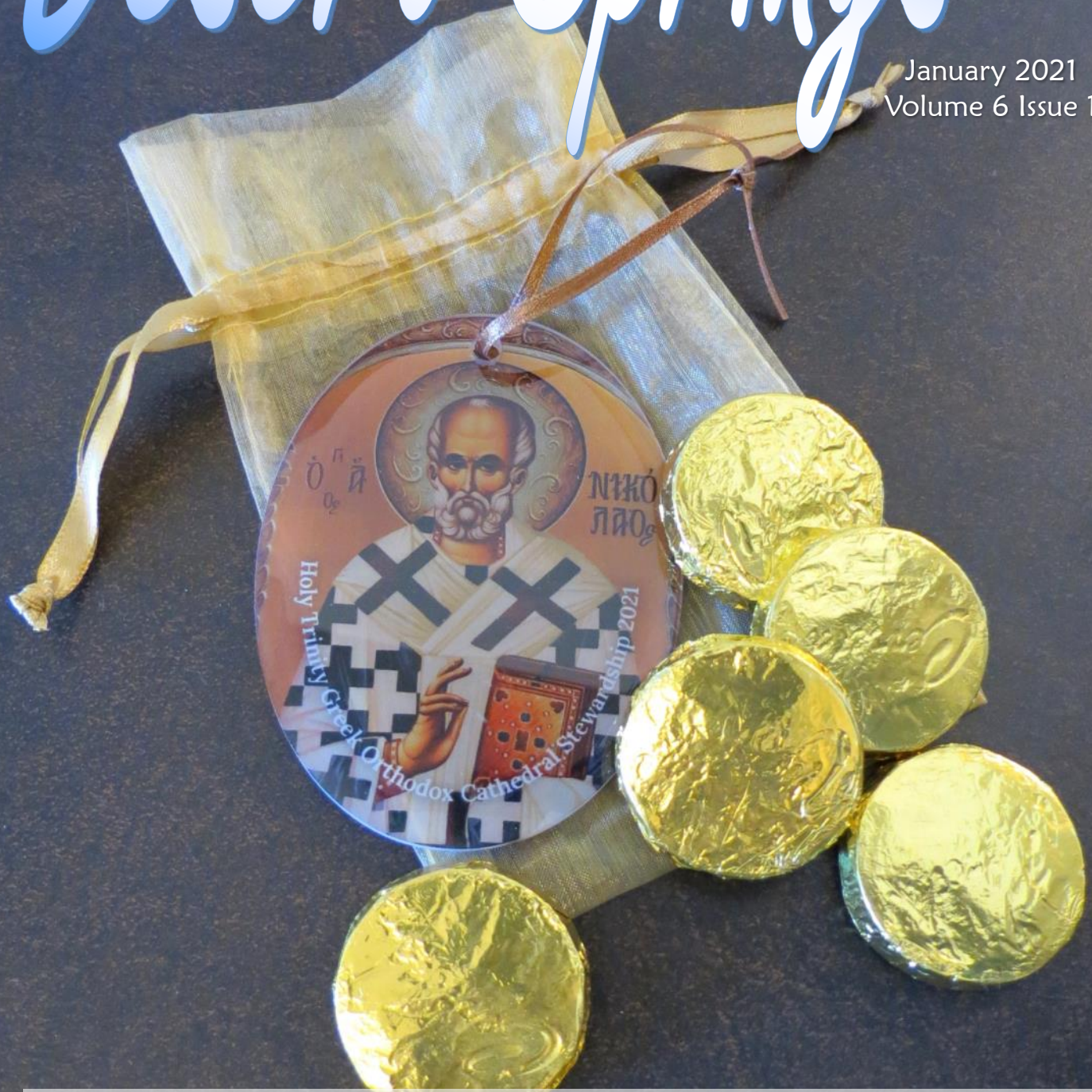


# Desert Springs

January 2021  
Volume 6 Issue 1



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

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Rev. 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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The 25th of each month

**Sunday Bulletin Deadline**  
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Paul Katsenes—Vice President  
Connie Contes—Treasurer  
Dina Anagnopoulos—Assistant Treasurer  
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Charlie De Moss, Sandy Meris,  
Socrates Papadopoulos,  
Adam Venetis

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

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

**Archdiocese Website**  
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# Message from Father Apostolos

## The Great Reset



A jaded politician once quipped "Never let a good crisis go to waste." We may well imagine that politicians around the world are salivating at the opportunities our numerous present crises make possible, the boldest of which is being referred to as "The Great Reset."

This initiative, sponsored by the World Economic Forum, is described as *"a proposal... to rebuild the economy sustainably following the COVID-19 pandemic... It seeks to improve capitalism by making investments more geared toward mutual progress and focusing more on environmental initiatives."* Championed by some, decried by others, the Great Reset is but the latest in the unending parade of wedge issues which afflict our times. This is the ultimate fodder for those vulnerable to grand conspiracy theories.

And yet, the beginning of every new year offers the savvy an opportunity to embrace our own "great reset" on many levels. Resolutions to improve, to grow, to learn, to adapt, are as easily made as broken come each new year, but they have a weighted poignancy as we enter 2021. Many of us intuitively feel that profound change is now, most especially, required of us.

At least by recent standards, the year now ending has been fraught with many societal and personal challenges as the covid virus reaps a bitter harvest of over 330,000 victims (US) and 1,710,000 (worldwide) now taken from us, exposing the vapid impotence of our social and political mechanisms. Whole industries have virtually disappeared, long-vanquished hatreds and baleful ideologies have been again unleashed, houses of worship and school buildings have been shuttered, and reasons for hope seem absent.

One frequently hears the wistful lament for a "return to normal" once the virus is effectively vaccinated into submission. But what version of normal are we hoping to reclaim? What are the metrics by which we measure this return? This protracted disruption has upended the orderliness of our lives in many ways. Now we stand at a fork in the road, faced with a rare opportunity to chart a better course for ourselves. How will we choose?

When the Lord God delivered the suffering children of Israel from the clutches of Egypt, parting the Red Sea and drowning Pharaoh and his chariots in the waves, feeding the refugees with manna from heaven, guiding them along their journey with a pillar of cloud by day, fire by night, they grumbled. And their response perfectly illustrated the plight of stubborn humanity as one rebellion after another raked the migrant people. A more dissatisfied and ingrateful lot could scarcely be imagined!

Even after 40 years of sojourning along a circuitous path from Egypt to Canaan, indecision still gripped the people. "Should we finally enter the Promised Land or trek back to bondage in Egypt? Standing on the border of this long-promised land of milk and honey, Joshua posed a simple question; *"choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served, which were beyond the Euphrates River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."*

This ancient impulse to return to the familiar, even if terrible, falls under the time-worn cliché "better the devil you know." But I have found God to be the Ultimate Disrupter of

*Message continued on page 4*

*Desert Springs January 2021*

comfort zones. The spiritual life is one of unending change and rehabilitation, a regimen of endless change that will not end for us in the grave but will reach into eternity as well. To stand in place is to regress.

The very rhythm of the Church is one of ceaseless repentance and correction as the refrain "Lord have mercy" echoes without interruption from Orthodox parishes. But we must confront the fears within our own hearts which tempt us to return to the "Egypt" of our former selves. We must, like Peter, find the courage to get out of the boat of our former routines and walk the waves of an uncertain future with Jesus Christ, trusting that He knows where we need to go.



The World Economic Forum's "Great Reset" need not trouble us (though good luck convincing the many easily startled clergymen whose dire pontifications clutter social media spaces today of that!) What ought to command our attention, however, is the as-yet-unknown degree to which our own parish community has been impacted in 2020.

We cannot yet determine how many of our members will find it much more amenable not to return to regular worship services. Legitimate concerns for one's health can be easily commingled with one's lazier tendencies to leave off spiritual pursuits. Rebuilding our Cathedral parish is now the central focus of our collective activities.

We must, once the virus is subdued, woo and convince hesitant worshipers to return to the Lord's Table, also pulling into our embrace those new souls for whom the crises of 2020 served as a catalyst to investigate Holy Orthodoxy. A deeper spirit of engagement and support must animate our collective efforts and not a yearning to merely return to the familiarity of the past, to return to Egypt.

As the society arounds us flails about in paroxysms of outrage and fear, we must remain prayerfully focused on the only solution to the crises which will linger into the future. Deeply rooted spiritual maladies can never be healed by political or societal "initiatives," no matter which world body supports them. And to shout at the darkness from the scripts and screeds of our favored pundits accomplishes nothing.

We now enter 2021 yet under the shadow of many unresolved crises, but we do so with the unshakable faith in our King and God, Jesus Christ, and as adopted citizens of His Eternal Kingdom. St. Paul's hopeful words "We seek here no lasting city but the city which is to come," (Heb. 13:14) must be sealed in our hearts and ever on our lips.

In whatever time remains for us, let us be devoted to the "Great Reset" of true repentance and to the healing of the world through the mercies of its only true Creator and Savior and God! And may the almighty hand of God protect and guide each of us and our families as we enter with unabashed hope this New Year now beginning!

Handwritten signature of Fr. Apostolos Hill in cursive script.

Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean

# Stewardship

By Sandy Meris

## MEET YOUR 2021 HOLY TRINITY STEWARDSHIP TEAM



### ***KRISTEN BRUSKAS***



***Why I believe that stewardship is so important:***

Holy Trinity Cathedral has been my parish home since 1972. I have seen our community grow and prosper for nearly five decades. There is so much potential yet to be reached because of our dedicated and faithful stewards. Opportunities await us – to serve others, to grow, to learn, and to be ambassadors of our faith. As stewards, we are not just “members” of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we are living our calling as Greek Orthodox Christians – giving back to God the gifts He has given us, and giving Him glory through our thoughts, words and deeds.

***Why I want to be a part of the Stewardship Team and what I hope we can accomplish:***

I am excited to be on the Stewardship Team, and help our parish create a comprehensive program that educates, engages, and enlightens our community. We need to find ways to engage our faithful – both virtually and in person – so that people have a place to come together in worship, but also a place to build up fellowship as Orthodox Christians. We may be a large community, but we need to help our people make connections with one another. This can be done through small group ministry, targeted programs, and improving our communications with the parish. There are a lot of great things happening at Holy Trinity Cathedral, and more is yet to come. Let us share this Good News with you, and let’s make our Cathedral shine like the Jewel in the Desert.

### ***PETE CHOUKALAS***



***Why I believe that stewardship is important:***

I used to think stewardship was important because the church needed to “pay the bills.” Yes, part of stewardship is to offset the operational costs, but I soon realized that tithing is so much more. When you look at everything that embodies the church, there is a deeper understanding of the various aspects of our cathedral. Stewardship builds a strong church community which, in turn, builds a foundation for our families, and for generations to come. It is the cornerstone in giving back to Christ’s church, to ensure we are preserving God’s work. It should be approached in a pure and spiritual manner, making your contribution a true act of giving. Our consistent and sacrificial giving to our church shows

a measure of personal gratitude towards God.

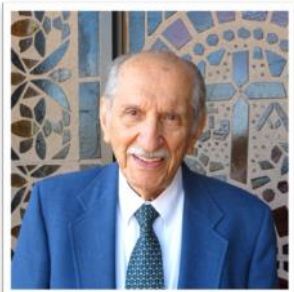
***Why I want to be a part of the Stewardship Team and what I hope we can accomplish:***

I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the Stewardship Team. Being a party of this dedicated team brings together likeminded individuals to create a roadmap,

*Stewardship Team introductions continued on page 6*

developing an actionable plan to engage patrons in this very important act. As I grow in my faith, I have a deeper understanding of our obligations to give back. The Bible encourages tithing and provides a guideline for giving. As stated in Corth. II 9:7, “Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly, nor under compulsion, for God loves the man that gives cheerfully.”

### ***CHARLES DEMOSS***



#### ***Why I believe that stewardship is important:***

As a young boy, I was told by my mom and dad that God is very important in my life. I learned that everything I accomplish and everything that I gain is because God is blessing me to have those things. I truly believe that all that I have therefore, belongs to God and I am His steward to do the best with what He has given me during my lifetime. He will give me wisdom to lead me in all my choices. God directs me on how to deploy all that He has given me. This is why stewardship to my church and others in need is extremely important to me.

#### ***Why I want to be a part of the Stewardship Team and what I hope we can accomplish:***

I believe that the most effective way to accomplish a goal is to lead by example. When one believes something is important in their life, they step forward and try to set an example for others to follow in the best way they can. By cheerful giving, I hope others will also benefit with their hearts and cheerfully give.

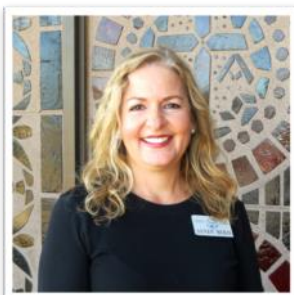
### ***CINDY KYPRIANOU***



#### ***Why I believe that stewardship is important:***

I believe that stewardship is important because it is our responsibility to manage God's property and this impacts our eternal destiny. In reference to Fathers Apostolos' and Alexander's homilies with the Parable of the Talents, I hope as a part of the Stewardship Team, together we can serve our Holy Trinity community to better understand how God entrusts us with treasure and talents given during our time here on Earth. Using the first two men in the parable as our example, we must invest and multiply what's given and do God's work with love and compassion.

### ***SANDY MERIS***



#### ***Why I believe that stewardship is important:***

I have come to learn that stewardship is far more than financial giving to the church. Stewardship encompasses so much more, including giving of one's TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE. It is through all three combined that, when we give of ourselves in these ways, creates a vibrant, healthy church family and community. I believe that stewardship may start with filling out an annual pledge card and making contributions, but it must include attending the services regularly, being an active participant in the ministries, helping the less fortunate, and using our gifts and talents to give back. When we are fully involved and engaged in our church, we become more fulfilled and find that we end up receiving far

more than we give.

#### ***Why I want to be a part of the Stewardship Team and what I hope we can accomplish:***

I am so excited about stewardship and all the things I know are possible when we come together as a church family. The possibilities are endless! I have witnessed the incredible generosity from our Holy Trinity parishioners. When there is a need, we fill it. When asked, we give. When met with challenging times, we come together. I hope to work with the Stewardship Team to build a comprehensive multi-year plan that will challenge each of us to look deeper into our hearts and choose to put God's church first in our lives. When we do that, everything else falls into place. I hope to create programs that will help us grow spiritually and find ways to allow our parishioners to use their God given gifts and talents to give back to Holy Trinity. I am optimistic for our future!

# Friends of the Festival

## OPA

In Memory of our Son George, Nick & Dena Kantaros  
Bette Maniatis, In Memory of John Maniatis and Peter Maniatis  
In Memory of John Francis Parge & Maria John Parge

## PAREA

In Memory of Rev. Father James & Presbyteria Catherine Tavlarides and Takie Tavlarides

## YIA MAS

Laurel Charnas & Todd Schiller  
Honorable Connie Contes & Honorable Hercules Dellas, in honor of all Cathedral  
parishioners, past, present, and future generations  
Andi & Ted Fourlis  
Celeste & Chris Francis  
In Memory of Athena Choukalas, The Choukalas Family  
In Memory of Brian Haugen, The DeMoss Families  
In Memory of James Poulos  
In Memory of Panagiotis Sakkas & John Sakkas, The Schneider Family  
Paul, Lori, Tom & Bebe Katsenes  
Stella Kosta, In loving Memory of George S. Kosta  
Nick, Marina, Athena & Ariana Kretsedemas  
The Kyprianou Family  
The Manelis Family  
Connie & Christo Panagiotakopoulos  
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos  
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The Petsas Family  
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In Memory of Tiffani Noelle Bichekas  
In Memory of Florence & Stephen Dyer & Rosemary & Howard Conrad  
Mary & John Katsenes  
Tassie Ladas  
The Lambrou Family  
James & Stephanie Machas  
The Meris Family  
Bill & Jean Miller  
Alexi & Alexia Panagiotakopoulos

*Friends of the Festival continued on page 8*

*Desert Springs January 2021*

Niko Panagiotakopoulos  
Melissa & Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos  
The Pritsos Family  
In Memory of George & Catherine Sarantes  
Angela & George Scopelianos  
Terry & Chris Seretis  
In Memory of Milton, Harriet & Dean Sioles  
Christine & Andrew Stamatis  
Tom & Bessie Tzavaras  
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Dimetrios & Eugenia Zannis

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The Annos Family  
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Tom, Jack & Alexandra Katsenes Family  
Helen Katsufrakis  
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Chris & Panteli Petroulakis  
Jim & Dimitra Sampson  
Angelo & Marie Spanos  
John & Teresa Thomas  
Constantine & Stella Tsantilas  
Stephanie Willard & David Worrell

### KEFI

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Chris & Rita Bruskas  
Kathrene Carras, In Memory of George T. Jouflas  
Harriet Chotras  
Jean & John Dal Pan  
Basil & Ruth Denaxas  
Tom & Georgia Fourlis



Georgana Frieh  
Pam, Dem, & Diana Georgelos  
Sandra & Demetri Harris  
In Loving Memory of George P. Harris, Patsy Harris  
Cristina & Dan Horvath  
Irene & Michael Jensen  
In Loving Memory of John M. Karoutas  
Jim & Poppy Kavouris  
Ronald & Virginia Kidd  
Emily Kimmell  
In Memory of Panagiotis "Pete" Kretsedemas  
Elias & Mary Lampos  
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Douglas C. & Anna V. Markakis  
Andrea & Edward McNamera  
Helen & Philip Mitchell  
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In Memory of Andrea B. Nicoluzakis  
Anastasia & Jeremy Oxley  
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Rita & Spyros Papaspyrou  
Georgia Pikoula  
In Loving Memory of Dena Pikoulas  
Nicole & David Pyle  
Lyda Rabbitt  
Lois Sakkas, In Honor of My Children & Grandchildren  
The Sgouros Family  
The Tropea Family  
In Memory of Vaios Tsanos, Areti Tsanos  
Mrs. Argyro Vasquez  
Colin & Paula Walsh  
Ann & Bill Wilson-Camelback Coaching  
The Young Family  
Chris & Kally Zacharos  
Zella Zannis

### OTHER

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James & Helen Bruno  
In Memory of Barbara Cope, Patsy Harris  
Mary Lou Mastorakos  
Hannah & William Neal  
Betty Papas, Nick Papas  
Rose & Alex Rentzis

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!**

# 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.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy new year!  
We are looking forward to seeing you  
in person again when we are able to do so.

**Next Meeting on  
Thursday, January 14, 2021  
6:00pm by ZOOM**



**Tray collection for St. Basil Academy on  
Sunday, January 3, 2021.  
Look for the labeled trays in the Narthex.**

## JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 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 2021, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

# Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos



We thank the many talented bakers who helped create the delicious goodies sold by Philoptochos to support their many projects. Shown above are bakers for the tsoureki, photos taken on the first day of baking on 12/01/2020.



Philoptochos' pre-ordered and pre-paid outdoor Bake Sale was a success! Thank you to our community for your support—you are appreciated!

# Flavorful Festival Fundraiser



On 12/20/2020, the fundraiser distribution team posed with Father Apostolos.

There's still some product left, so ask if interested!

Thank you to those who purchased the tasty items in support of our HTC Community!

Every bit helps in this year without a physical Festival.

## Office Volunteers Needed

As we have been allowed to slowly re-open again the Cathedral for services we are anticipating we will re-open the Cathedral office soon too.

We will have a variety of needs for Volunteer staffing over the next several months.

If you have time and interest to help the church please let Paul Katsenes know at [pkatsenes@cox.net](mailto:pkatsenes@cox.net).



# Giving Tree

## *THE GIVING TREE*

*A huge thanks to all of our Holy Trinity parishioners who generously donated to The Giving Tree which raised money for the families of UMOM Shelter for Homeless Families.*

*Together we raised \$1,458!  
\$555 in gift cards and \$903 in cash.*

*We pray those funds enabled the UMOM families to have a brighter Christmas this year.*



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

**New!** All services can now be found on the **Home Page** of the  
Cathedral's website  
[www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org),  
in addition to the continued postings on our Facebook page.

Thank you to Tom Giatron and Joshua Pardhe for their above-and-  
beyond efforts to bring clear and timely video to all!



## 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

# 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-eight 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 into the history of Holy Trinity Cathedral.*

We have been blessed by the generosity and foresight of the individuals and families listed on the next page. 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 and \$1,000 or more will be separately listed along with others who have reached that level.

**We are thankful for your gift, no matter the amount, into the general endowment fund.**

### Endowment Fund gifts over \$10,000

Gabriel N. & Helen H. Papagallos	Faye Boukas	George & Ann Souvall
The DeMoss Families	Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry	IMO+ Tasia Pritchard
IMO+ Mary Montague	George & Koula Cheros	John George Thomas
IMO+ John G. Zannaras	IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis	Steve & Joan Vrahas
Steve & Judith Vrahas	Dr. Nicholas Baziotes	John & Mary Katsenes
James & Connie Coin Contes	Ange & Alex J. Pappas	

### Endowment Fund gifts over \$1,000

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss  
\$1,000+ IN MEMORY GIFTS:

IMO+ Stacy Hotis	IMO+ Danny Speros	IMO+ Mark Sprintz
IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlariades		IMO+ Tom Contes
IMO+ Athena Choukalas	IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos	IMO+ John Sgouros
IMO+ Chris Gabriel	IMO+ Dr. Hugo Rangel	IMO+ Koula Triantafyllou
IMO+ Milton & Harriet Sioles	IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniaris	

# 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

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

## Chanters in December





# House of Stewards

Through 11/30/2020

Panagiota Agelakos  
Peter & Sarah Agnos  
Dorothy Ainslie  
Evan & Terri Alexon  
Dina Anagnopoulos  
Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos  
Nikki C. Anest  
Bettina Angelos  
John & Sandy Annos  
John Antoniadis  
Elaine Apostle  
Sheila Asala  
Chris & Angie Athens  
Christina Bakavelou & Chris Perry  
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  
Kate Chames  
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  
Kathryn Dye  
Caroline & Kostas Economopoulos  
Dena & Christos Economopoulos  
James Elam & Lisa Glitsos Elam  
Rev. Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades  
Ed & Katherine Fancher  
Jeff & Judy Farr  
Greg Hernandez  
Helen Fernandez  
Athanasios & Georgia Fourlis  
Ted & Andi Fourlis  
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel  
Georgana Friehe  
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 Lampos  
Mary Levendi  
Lea & Mike Linaris  
Maria & Luke Lipnos  
Gregory Lizanich  
Efterpi Lourias  
Stephanie & James Machas  
Maria & Martin Maciejewski  
Daniel MacInnis  
Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitis  
Marika Makridis  
Margarita Makris  
Julie & Felix Mamani  
Donna & Jim Manelias  
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

# House of Stewards

Continued from page 15

Pamela Maydanis  
Peter & Chriss Maydanis  
Angela & Chris Mead  
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 Paspasyrou  
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  
George & Angela Scopelianos  
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  
Scott & Terri Vaughn  
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



© dak

# St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Rita Papaspyrou



The month of January gives us the opportunity to celebrate the **Feast of Holy Theophany**.



In the East, the Nativity of Christ was celebrated together with Epiphany of January 6<sup>th</sup>, while in the West, the Nativity was celebrated before

Epiphany became known to them. It is important to stress that, contrary to what is written in some places, Theophany is NOT the birth of the Church. The Church has always existed since the beginning of times. The Church is God and since God has always existed, so has the Church.

The term Theophany and Epiphany is used interchangeably. Theophany is a Greek word. 'Theophania', (Theos - God; phaneia - manifestation) means in literal translation, "Manifestation of God". The literal meaning of Epiphany (Epi - above; phaneia - manifestation) is "Manifestation from above".

The Orthodox Church has defined the Epiphany of the Holy Trinity as the appearance of God during Christ's baptism in the Jordan River. It is the beginning of Christ's official dedication to His Divine Mission in the presence and manifestation of the Triune God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus and the one chosen by God to proclaim His coming, was preaching in the wilderness and was baptizing all who would respond to his message calling for repentance. As he was doing this, John was directing the people toward the one who would baptize them with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11).

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. Initially, John would not do this, saying that Jesus should baptize him. Jesus said to John, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness (3:15). John consented and baptized Jesus.

When Jesus came up from the water, the heavens opened suddenly, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him. The Bible records that the Spirit descended like a dove and alighted on him. When this happened, a voice came from heaven and said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with Whom I am well pleased." This was the voice of God the Father.

Christ's baptism in the Jordan was "theophany," a manifestation of God to the world, because it was the beginning of our Lord's public ministry. It was also a "theophany" in that the world was granted a revelation of the Holy Trinity. All three Persons were made manifest together: the Father testified from on high to the divine Sonship of Jesus; the Son received His Father's testimony; and the Spirit was seen in the form of a dove, descending from the Father and resting upon the Son.

Theophany represents our redemption from darkness and illumination by the light of the knowledge of God. This is why it is also referred to as the Feast of Lights, the Lights which illuminates our conscience and our Christian way of life. "I am the Light", Jesus

*St. Nectarios Bookstore Message continued on page 20*

said. The Church celebrates on this day the illumination of the world by the light of Christ. As Orthodox Christians, let us always walk upright in the Light of Christ!

### Icon of the Feast



The Icon of the Feast of Theophany tells the story from the Gospels in images and color. On the left side of the icon we see John the Baptist who is dressed in camel's hair and has the appearance of one who lives in the wilderness. His arms are outstretched, showing an attitude of prayer and reverence, but also directing others to Christ. With his right hand he is conducting the baptism.



The Heavens open, the voice of the Father is heard, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove descends upon Christ.

In the center of the icon is Christ being baptized in the Jordan. He is standing in the water wearing a waistcloth, and with His right hand He is blessing the waters of the Jordan. Above His head is the Holy Spirit descending as a dove upon Him. At the top of the icon, a semicircle depicts the opening of the Heavens and the voice of the Father.



Angels of the Lord gathered on the shore of the Jordan River give praises to Christ.

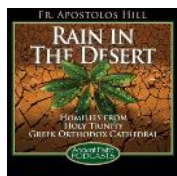
An angel of the Lord receives Christ as He comes out of the water.



## 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](http://www.holytrinityphx.org).



## Follow HTC on Facebook

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



# 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 Father Alexander will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

## Easy Stewardship Sign Up! Stewardship Sign-Up Gift

Go to [www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org) and then click on **Stewardship**



In celebration of Stewardship Sunday, a commemorative glass icon ornament and five gold-wrapped chocolate coins were gifted to parishioners who signed a Pledge Card.



## Attention Organizations:

Please check the Organization Contacts listings on page 2 of this issue and confirm that the information is correct. Email is the default contact type, but can be changed to texting or telephoning if preferred.

Email any changes to both the Office at [AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org](mailto:AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org) and Kristen at [kvasilarakos@cox.net](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net).

It is the organization’s responsibility to inform Diana and Kristen of any updates to their listing.

*Thank you!*



# Gifts Presentation



12/13/2020

Gifts originally announced at Father Alexander's celebratory Ordination Luncheon in October were presented to Father at the end of Divine Liturgy.

# Charity Support



12/21/2020

Some of our youth volunteered their time at St. Mary's Food Bank.



# Arizona Hellenic Foundation

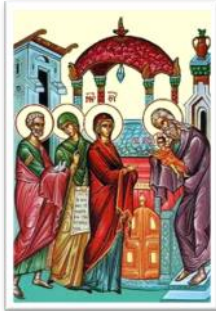
The Arizona Hellenic Foundation has several scholarships available for qualified students. For information about eligibility, and scholarship application, please visit the Foundation's website at [Azhellenic.com](http://Azhellenic.com).



# 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



12/06/2020

Micah Lucas, son of Veronica & Michael Hill  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

## Chrismation

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

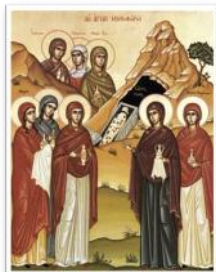


12/06/2020

Nikole Kamboukos  
Sponsor: Angela Scopelianos  
*God's Blessings be upon her.*

## 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



12/19/2020

Dionysia Boukas  
*May her memory be eternal.*

# Maintenance Corner



By Ted Fourlis

The Valonis brothers have been busy cleaning and sanitizing our Cathedral. The maintenance team has been working on various projects needed from our last annual inspection with Benson Systems. The Valonis brothers have been able to repair and or install items needed at significant savings to the budget. There have been vehicles that have crashed into two different areas of our campus. As many of you may have seen the front west wall and entry gate were damaged in one accident. The gate and wall have now been repaired. The front walls and center planter walls have all been freshly painted and look great! The second vehicle damaged our fence line on the east side of the field, and damaged the wall and window in the basement of the Educational Building. All damage from this incident has been repaired. Many thanks to Paul Katsenes and Diana Camacho for working diligently with the insurance companies on both these incidents. A broken irrigation line was repaired on the north side of the Cathedral. As the new year begins we will be looking at our needs and prioritizing upcoming projects. Happy New Year to all and may 2021 bring us the opportunity to all be together again.

Ted Fourlis and Peter Bilitsis  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
Maintenance Committee  
602-625-8835

[htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com](mailto:htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com)

# Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners  
and their guests



*See you soon!*

Julie Karoutas  
email: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com)  
cell: 623-313-8720 call or text



# Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director  
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher

Christmas is one of the most cherished holidays in Greece. It is celebrated on December 25th in honor of the birth of Jesus Christ, who is called Ιησούς Χριστός in Greek. Each region has its own unique customs during Christmastime in Greece.

Our classes learned how to make traditional Christmas cookies, kourabiedes. We learned about St. Nicholas, patron of children and sailors, and built origami boats to celebrate St. Nicholas. Did you know before decorating Christmas trees, Greek decorated boats? We sang the Kalanta, Greek Christmas carols. Each child received a Holy Trinity ornament with special sweets.

We, Gabriella and I, wish everyone Καλά Χριστούγεννα, Merry Christmas! Καλή χρόνια, Happy New Year and καλές Γιορτές, Happy Holidays!!



	Christmas <b>Χριστούγεννα</b> Hristúyena	snow <b>χιόνι</b> hióni	
	wreath <b>στεφάνι</b> stefáni	fireplace <b>τζάκι</b> jáki	
	Santa Claus <b>Άγιος Βασίλης</b> Ágios Vasilis	reindeer <b>τάρανδος</b> tárandos	
	elf <b>ξωτικό</b> xotikó	present <b>δώρο</b> dóro	





# AHEPA Chapter 219



## AHEPA 219 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AHEPA Chapter 219 culminated their annual United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM) and St. Innocent's Orphanage philanthropic drives. Although these drives were accomplished during these unprecedented times reducing our meetings to just two, Chapter 219 broke records by raising a total matched funds of \$19,152.00. Additionally, Chapter 219 Educational Cultural Foundation (ECF) awarded a total of \$11,000 worth of academic scholarships to eight deserving students. We are cognizant that although the COVID pandemic increases the difficulty of our meetings and activities, charities' needs actually increase and we must dig deep to help those in need.

Since 2012, we have...

- Donated \$76,000 in Direct Community Outreach
- Awarded over \$118,000 in Scholarships to the Community Youth
- Brought \$120,000 in revenues by hosting the Festival AHEPA Bars
- Hosted numerous church Gala's and functions
- Received various District and National Awards and Recognition

**Our next meeting is scheduled for 6 PM, Thursday, January 21, 2021 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Please look for email updates as we get closer to the meeting date.**

**Interested in becoming a member of our dynamic chapter? 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](mailto:cjecomom@gmail.com),  
and we'll get you added to list!

Paulina Watson  
602-740-9350  
[Paulinawatson25@gmail.com](mailto:Paulinawatson25@gmail.com)

Dianna Scaccia  
602-323-4615  
[discaccia@gmail.com](mailto: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  
2021 Activity Year.

Little Lambs Group = newborns to Kindergarten

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