

Desert Springs

January 2022
Volume 7 Issue 1



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
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Rev. Alexander Eliades
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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Monday–Thursday, 9:00am–3:00pm

Sunday Worship

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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2022 Parish Council Members

Dina Anagnopoulos, Sandy Annos,
Connie Contes, Charlie DeMoss,
Andi Furlis, Paul Katsenes,
Jim Manelis, Sandy Meris,
Socrates Papadopoulos

Holy Trinity Cathedral
www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco
www.SanFran.goarch.org

Archdiocese Website
www.goarch.org

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- **Feed Those in Need** — Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net
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- **Sons of Pericles** — Ted Furlis: text or call: 602-625-8835
- **Stewardship** — Sandy Meris: sandymeris@gmail.com
- **Sunday School** — Kathy New: kkatsalis@msn.com
- **Wedding Coordinator** — Terri Alexon:
terrialexon@gmail.com
- **YAL** — Alexander Harding: text 480-626-3149

Attention Organizations:

Please check the listings on this page and confirm that the information is correct. Email is the default contact type, but listings can be changed to text or phone if preferred. Email any changes to both the Office at AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org and Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net. *It is the organization's responsibility to inform Natalie and Kristen of any updates to your listing.*

Message from Father Alexander

Conquering Chaos



Having just passed the Holiday Season we can feel a bit accomplished in that we simply survived the chaos of family, friends, dinners, parties, gift-getting, and all that comes in that wonderful time of year. In fact, when January and the New Year comes we traditionally set higher goals for ourselves perhaps because of how we ended the last year, we want to be better.

And yet inevitably, we are beset by the chaos of our life that we are beholden to: running from place to place, accomplishing tasks, and falling back into old habits.

Even though the Church New Year is celebrated on September 1, we have an important feast on January 6 to kick off our New Year as Americans: Theophany (also called Epiphany), the Baptism of Christ. One of the great feasts of our Church, it was originally celebrated more elaborately than Christmas as it signaled the beginning of Christ's ministry here on earth and the "showing of God" (hence Theophany) through the Voice of the Father, the Dove as the Holy Spirit, and the Son as Jesus Christ, God in Trinity.

But how is this a help in my life of chaos? We listen to the hymns and Psalms read and sung for this feast and we find the great significance of Christ entering the water, an ancient sign of chaos and destruction, and turning them back and subduing it. It is through accepting and actively bringing Christ into our lives that they can be changed. All other change is temporary and in the end, unhelpful. He is the only One who can enter into our chaos and destroy it and make us live as we were made to.

But how do we let Him into our life? Through what John the Baptist, His cousin, taught: repentance. "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" We perhaps have many ideas in our head of what repentance truly is but it simply means a turning to God. It is not a one-time action, it is not only when I go to confession, or when I'm about to enter church and feel convicted. It is an entire way of life. It is acknowledging I constantly fall and put things other than God in God's place but I have a desire to make Him truly Lord of my life. It is a life of tension, not perfection, not complacency, but a working towards God, no matter how slow that progress is in my life.

One of the issues when we make our New Year's Resolutions is we do not see instant results and so our desire to change wanes as the struggle continues. Our spiritual life will be the same: if we pray once we will not immediately walk on water. But a true struggle for God will not go unrewarded in this life and especially in the next. Our fight against the chaos of the world, it's pull and draw to be BUSY and ACCOMPLISH things as a sign of success is a heavy one. However, we're not made for accomplishments, we're made for Communion with God.

If we want to change truly it will take a herculean effort to do so but we need to do it with God who conquers the chaos of the waters and this world and brings us true life. This year of 2022, make it a year of repentance, a year of moving to God, however slowly, however discouraging it may feel, push, make a change. Bring Christ into your life through prayer, committing to attending the Divine Services (especially the services of Theophany!), fasting, and all the tools the Church gives us to become united to our God and conquer our chaotic life.

Stewardship



Christmas Might Be Over, But the Gift-Giving Continues!

Well, it's 2022 and the start of another year. Have you recovered from the holidays yet? Did you make your annual resolutions? Leading up to December 31 we were inundated with advertisements to influence our decisions with regard to health, weight loss, travel, personal relationships, jobs and family. But do we have to wait for the New Year to contemplate these aspects of our lives? What about a closer look at our spiritual lives and how we can make this year different, better, more impactful, and more meaningful.

Now is the time to make New Year's Resolutions that will enrich your spiritual life. Resolve to devoting more time in daily prayer. We are always in such a hurry, but consider dedicating a few precious moments at the beginning of your day to give thanks to God before you rush off into the world. Resolve to regularly attend Divine Services. Sunday morning seems like a great time sleep in, catch up on some reading, or even do laundry or yard work. But, when you think about the sacrifice the Lord made on the Cross, can we not offer a few hours from our day to join in prayer and partake of the Holy Sacraments?

Now is also the time to search our hearts, as stewards of the Church, and offer our very best gifts back to God. Christmas might be over, but the gift-giving continues! When it comes to being stewards, this is a lifelong commitment, and one that requires thoughtful and prayerful consideration.

Holy Trinity Cathedral is your home! Did you know that over 250 services are offered each year? Did you know that our ministries are providing for the spiritual formation of our parish family, through religious education programs offered from the youngest to the youngest-at-heart parishioners? For over 90 years, Holy Trinity Cathedral has been a beacon of our Orthodox faith in the Phoenix metropolitan area and, with your support, we will be able to offer even more in 2022 and beyond.

Our gifts don't belong to us, they belong to the Lord. Can you imagine going to a birthday party for someone and bringing gifts for someone else? That's exactly what we do at Christmas. But, we can change that by opening our hearts and digging deep within ourselves to offer a stewardship gift that is worthy of Christ and His Incarnation.

Make the most of the New Year as an integral part of our steward family. If you have submitted your pledge card - thank you! You may want to consider the amount you pledged as a minimum and strive to increase it. If you didn't yet fill out your pledge card, we invite you to do that today. Being a steward is a blessing, so be sure to pass on what you have been blessed with and give it back to God, from whom all blessings flow!

In Christ's Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristen Bruskas', written in a cursive style.

Kristen Bruskas
Stewardship Committee Member

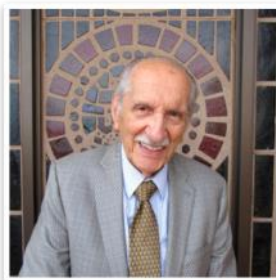
Parish Council Election Results

On Sunday, December 12, we, as a parish, completed two very important items of Parish business!

We had a Parish Assembly, with over 100 stewards attending. They approved the budget as presented by the Parish Council. Copies continue to be available in the office. Congratulations to all!

Secondly, we conducted the Parish Council elections. These five candidates were elected to 3 year terms beginning January 1, 2022. In alphabetical order:

Sandy Annos
Connie Contes
Charles DeMoss
Andi Fourlis
Jim Manelis



They will join Dina Anagnopoulos, Paul Katsenes, Sandy Meris, and Socrates Papadopoulos whose terms continue.

In January the entire group will recite the Oath of Office and be sworn in, where upon they will meet to elect officers for 2022

Parishioners Vote



Thank you to the
Election Committee of
Jennifer Bilitsis, Laurel
Charnas-Schiller, and
Angie Lambrou

Photos by Joyce Bavlinka

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 **inviolable** 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-nine 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 \$594,140.

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 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 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.

We are extremely grateful to those who have made sacrificial donations for the perpetual benefit of Holy Trinity Cathedral

+ ENDOWMENT GIFTS OVER \$10,000.00 +

Gabriel & Helen Papagallos	Faye Boukas	George & Ann Souvall
The DeMoss Families	Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry	MO+ 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 Baziotis	James & Connie Coin Contes
Ange & Alex J, Pappas	John & Mary Katsenes	

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER \$1,000.00

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss, the Lambrou Family

IN MEMORY GIFTS: IMO+ Stacy Hotis, IMO+ Danny Speros, IMO+ Mark Sprintz, IMO+ Chris Gabriel, IMO+ Milton Sioles, IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlarides, IMO+ Tom Contes, IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos, IMO+ John Sgouros, IMO+ Chris Gabriel, IMO+ Athena & Dan Choukalas, IMO+ Milton & Harriet Sioles, IMO+ Koula & Pete Triantafyllou, IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniaris, IMO+ James H. Karros

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

IRA Tax Savings

TAX SAVINGS FOR HOLY TRINITY MEMBERS WITH IRA'S

Seniors are **required** to take withdrawals from their IRA's when they reach 72 years old.

Those withdrawals are fully taxable at ordinary income rates. There is a simple way to avoid that tax, and help Holy Trinity. When you have funds sent **directly** from your IRA to Holy Trinity, **the tax is avoided**. You do not get an additional deduction for this donation, because you have already saved the tax by your direct gift from your IRA.

You can make this process very simple by asking your IRA manager to issue a checkbook to you, then you simply write checks directly from Your IRA to Holy Trinity and any other charitable gifts you wish to make.

+ REMEMBER HOLY TRINITY IN YOUR WILL +

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, President

"FRIENDS OF THE POOR"

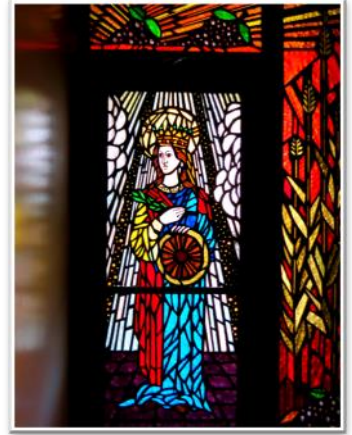
An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!

What is Philoptochos?

The translation is Philo = Friend and Ptochos = Poor.

It is literally "Friend of the Poor".



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



**Next Meeting on
Thursday,
January 6, 2022**

6:30pm

Speros Community Center



The 2021-2023 Board:

PRESIDENT - Alex Anagnopoulos
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT - Kristen Vasilarakos
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT - Cathy Keyser
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Lois Sakkas
RECORDING SECRETARY - Georgi Friehe
TREASURER - Patty Davis
ASSISTANT TREASURER - Georgia Furlis
ADVISOR - Mary Louise Theodoropoulos
Bessie Hotis, Julie Karoutas,
Julie Mamani, Zoe Pestrivas, Connie Venetis

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2022

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: _____

EMAIL: _____

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 2022, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Philoptochos Annual Vasilopita Cutting & Silent Auction



Please join St. Katherine Philoptochos of Holy Trinity Cathedral for their Annual Vasilopita Cutting and Silent Auction on January 9, 2022., in the Community Center, following Divine Liturgy. We share various cut Vasilopitas during coffee hour followed by a Silent Auction. We auction various beautiful Vasilopitas made by the ladies of Philoptochos for you to take home and share with your families to start off the New Year. We look forward to seeing you.

Philoptochos 2022 Membership Drive

Philoptochos is kicking off their 2022 membership drive today, ending on Sunday, February 27 with a goal of **100** paid members. Everyone completing a membership form during the drive (as well as those who have already paid) will be eligible for a raffle to be held at "Happiness Hour" on February 27 immediately after liturgy. Raffle includes cash and other fun prizes. Please stop by our table after Liturgy and complete a membership form and help us reach our goal.



Stop by the table and say hello!

Chapter Focus on Local Charities

In an effort to engage our membership in the Philoptochos mission to 'Help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, those with disabilities and the victims of disaster', and to expand involvement locally, we include, as a new part of our monthly program, **the opportunity for members to formally nominate and select charity recipients.**

Bill Marianes, who assisted with the Cathedral's "Why Statement", reminds us that **the more money extended out into our community, the more we will realize from the community back into our church.**

The Chapter will accept nominations at each monthly meeting.

Philoptochos Members: [Click HERE for the Nomination Form](#)

December's Chosen Charity:
Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Bell Road Thrift Store
<https://www.stvincentdepaul.net/thrift-stores/bell-road-thrift-store>



**THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Christmas Bake Sale

December 12, 2021

Thank you for supporting the annual Christmas Bake Sale, whose proceeds benefit the Chapter's many charitable needs. *We appreciate you!*



Philoptochos December Meeting

December 2, 2021



The Philoptochos Board



December Coffee Socials



The Giving Tree—*Thank you!*



Let us come together as a Cathedral family and help those in need this Christmas by participating in *The Giving Tree!* You will find the tree located in the Narthex of the Cathedral.

Simply bring in a gift card or cash and attach it to one of the clips on the tree.

All of the gift cards and cash collected will be donated to UMOM so they can share the Christmas spirit with the homeless families they serve.

About UMOM

Founded in 1964, UMOM is located in Phoenix, Arizona and is an innovative provider of shelter, housing and services for people experiencing homelessness.

- Every night they provide safe shelter and supportive services for over 150 families and 130 single women.
- They offer over 500 units of affordable housing across the Valley.
- They provide healthcare services, childcare, job training and services for veterans.



By supporting UMOM, you help them maintain and operate shelters that provide families, single women, military veteran families and youth with a chance to turn their lives around.

During this season of giving, let's give thanks for the blessings we have, and let's share from our abundance with those in need!



HTC on Facebook

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

[Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral—Phoenix, AZ](#)



Altar Service

Interested in learning more about serving on the altar?

Contact:

Chris Francis at battersbox7@yahoo.com,

David Haag at davidmhaag@yahoo.com



Philoptochos Tray Passing on Sunday, January 9, 2022

Philoptochos will be passing a tray for St. Basil Academy. Please look for the tray!

Stewardship Luncheon

December 5, 2021



Parish Assembly

December 12, 2021



Photos by Joyce Bavlinka

Iconography

By Joyce Bavlinka

One afternoon, while volunteering at the office at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix I received a call requesting photos of Robert Andrews' work. Who was Robert J. Andrews? What had he done at the church? Off-hand, no one knew: we learned he was an iconographer. We knew that the faceted glass windows were done by another artist but who was Andrews? The caller thought there were mosaic icons in the Narthex of the church but that was not the case. After a call back we figured out that he might have done the six mosaic icons in front of the altar. Yes! That was it. But how come we didn't know?? We learned Greek Orthodox iconographers usually stay rather anonymous, not signing their work. We were unable to find any of our church records relating to the screens because all the records from the 1970's and 1980's were lost to a flood.



The six icon screens that make up the altar screen at Holy Trinity Cathedral Phoenix were installed in the late 1970's. Andrews' photos of the work had faded and could not be used in the book. We were able to find a professional photographer, Pete Smith, who photographed the icons.

The President of the Parish Council, Paul Katsenes and I got to interview the iconographer who is co-authoring a book about his works. In our first phone interview we heard an absolutely delightful man who an encyclopedic memory of his works. We did a second interview and I made a commitment to assist in gathering information for his forthcoming book. Little did I know that that commitment would widen and that I would be interviewing Andrews for the next six months and preparing appendixes for the book.

Robert J. Andrews taught art education in public schools in Massachusetts for 18 years before he began his career reviving Byzantine iconography in the United States. During his 56-year career he designed and installed mosaic icons in 49 sites including 38 churches across the United States, Canada and in London, England. He has major work in 11 churches. His works depict the life of Christ, the Virgin Mary, the Apostles and the Saints. He works with Smalti glass from Italy, using a palette of 5,000 colors. Generally, each square foot of his mosaic contains approximately 400 pieces of thumb-nail sized glass.

He has covered two churches, Holy Trinity San Francisco and Transfiguration Church in Lowell, MA, entirely in iconography, one with over 8,000 sq. ft. His largest work is at Holy Trinity San Francisco; a 60' dome depicting the largest face of Christ in the world and containing 3,400 square feet of mosaic. The face of Christ is 23 feet and his eye measures four feet. A supporting structure had to be installed to support the weight of the dome. His works in the apse of churches, that area behind the altar range from 300 square feet up to 600 square feet. His murals can range from 6' x 12' to 9' x 12' to 9' x 20'.

Individual icons and murals cover the entry to churches, the church lobby/Narthex, the walls, domes, altars, apse (area behind/above altar), pillars, the faces of the choir lofts, ceilings, hallways, floors, as well as the exterior of churches. Individual icons range from 3' x 7' to 3' x 9'. His altar screens are made up of six to ten icons.

*Iconography continued on page 14
Desert Springs January 2022*

Overtime, I have interviewed him 15 times and consolidated the information gathered into a 'Conversations' essay, developed an inventory and listing of the 49 sites where his works are located, plus listing of websites where his works can be seen.

I have also worked with art research libraries and museums and am glad to announce that his work has been accepted by the Corning Museum of Glass and the Frick Art Research Library, two very prestigious art resources. In December 2021, he was enthusiastically accepted in to the Phoenix Art Museum Library. The library contains 40,000 books and we donated two booklets detailing his work at Transfiguration Church in Lowell, MA, as well as a portfolio of about 125 pages, including references and photos of his work!!

Andrews is a devoted Greek Orthodox Church member. Each time he begins his work, he asks that Jesus guide his iconography. His work has been recognized by:

Archbishop Iakovos of North and South America (1959-1996)

Archbishop Spyridon (1996-1999)

Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Iakovos designated him an approved iconographer in 1970, recognizing his work at Lowell and his rendition of the Resurrection at Holy Trinity San Francisco. He called the mosaic at San Francisco "one of the finest examples of art we have seen in any of our Churches in the Western Hemisphere."

Andrews' book about his career that will be coming out next year and I will announce when it is published and where to get it. In the meantime, you can view some of his works at www.rjaicons.com. Check out videos of his work in the "San Francisco" section and the "Catalog" section details the location of all works.

It has been an amazing spiritual experience to work with Bob Andrews and his daughter, Alexis, and his friends and supporters, as well as the librarians and archivists who have supported this work.

If you have any questions or want additional info, call the church office and leave a message for me and I will return your call. If you are interested in helping with the inventory of his works let me know.

Visiting Priest

Welcome, Father Metrakos! Fr. Nicholas Metrakos serves as the Assistant Priest at Holy Trinity in San Francisco. It was a joy to have him with us on Sunday, 12/05/2021 to join Father Alexander in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Father Nicholas also offered the homily!



Sunday School

Kathy New, Director
December 19, 2021
Christmas Pageant



Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher
phxgreeschool@gmail.com



Holy Trinity Greek
&
Heritage School of Phoenix

Χρόνια Πολλά και Καλή Χρονιά!

Ελπίζουμε να είστε καλά! We hope you are fine and enjoyed your Christmas week.

It is time to say goodbye to 2021 and welcome 2022...The start of 2022 might be not exactly what we were expecting and hoping for, but it is the perfect time to enjoy the small things in life.

Τώρα είναι η στιγμή να πούμε αντίο στο 2021 και να καλωσορίσουμε το 2022...Η έναρξη του 2022 μπορεί να μην είναι ακριβώς αυτό που περιμέναμε και ελπίζαμε, όμως είναι η τέλεια στιγμή να απολαύσουμε τα μικρά πράγματα στη ζωή!

Gabby and I wishes you a peaceful and creative 2022
Η Γαβριέλα και εγώ σας εύχεται ένα ειρηνικό 2022

Holy Trinity Greek School



Music Ministry “Notes”

By Terri Alexon, Choir Director



Choir Director Terri Alexon, in December, with the youngest members of the Choir.

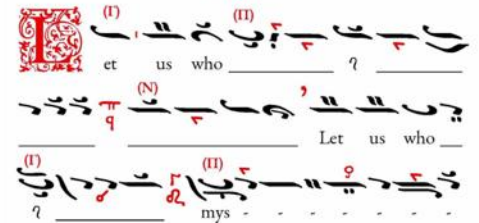
Byzantine Chant

Our Byzantine Chant Class will begin soon! The course is open to all Holy Trinity parishioners, and will cover the notation, the eight Modes of Byzantine Music, as well as participation in and learning about the divine services. Anyone interested in attending should contact [Cantor George Duvall](#) for more information.

THE CHERUBIC HYMN

AT THE DIVINE LITURGY

Mode  Ga 2



Coffee Hours

Thank you to [Philoptochos](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hours in December.

The January Coffee Hours will be sponsored by [Dance](#).



“To be a welcoming community sharing Christ’s love through faith and service.”

Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners and their guests

Julie Karoutas

email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com

cell: 623-313-8720 call or text



December Social



AHEPA Chapter 219

AHEPA CHAPTER 219



January Events:

The Annual AHEPA 219 Educational & Cultural Foundation's Scholarship Luncheon will be held Saturday, January 8, 2022. Reservations are closed for this event.

Our next Chapter meeting is Thursday, January 20 - 6:30 PM at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

The ATF shooting event is scheduled for January 29 at Shooters World, Time: TBD. Contact Bryan Korus - 480-703-3500 or bryan.korus@gmail.com for information and rates.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

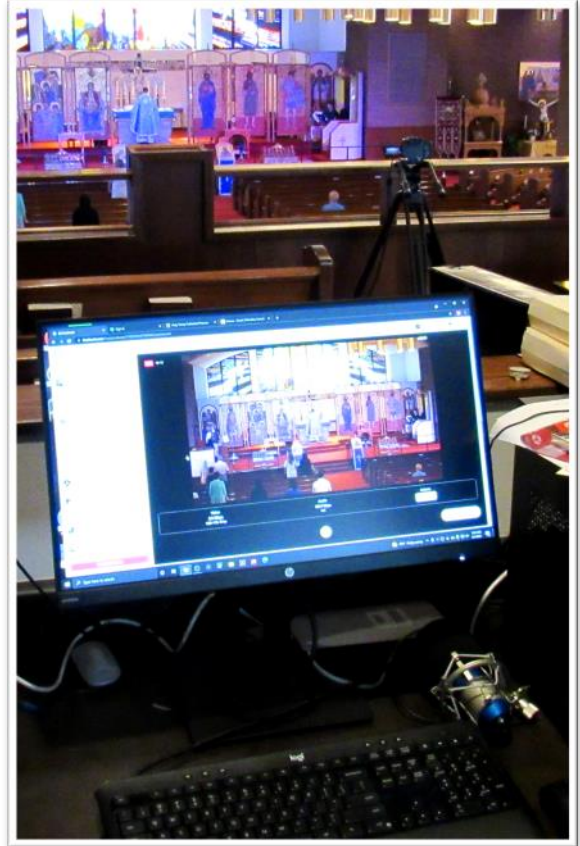
CONTACT STEVE LEMERE

770-990-6825

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

All services can now be found on the Home Page of the Cathedral's website 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

Our Church Family

Funerals

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

Psalm 23:6



12/09/2021

Athanassios Christos

Panagiotakopoulos

May his memory be eternal.

12/10/2021

Constantine Daskalakis

May his memory be eternal.

12/18/2021

Calvin Lee Raup

May his memory be eternal.

12/20/2021

Lillie Babakitis

May her memory be eternal.



Donations

We greatly value all your donations! Please remember, when you write us a check, to include your **intention for the donation and your envelope number in the memo line**. i.e. stewardship, candles, etc.

Thank you all!



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.

What YOU Can Do to Help Visitors Feel Welcome

Have you noticed new faces? We’ve had many visitors stop by lately. Some are Orthodox and visiting from other Parishes, some are returning to Orthodoxy after a long time away, and some are coming to check out Orthodoxy for the very first time. No matter how they come to us, let’s make sure we say Hello!

“Welcome! I don’t believe we’ve met yet. My name is (your name)” is a great start. Offer to walk with them to Coffee Hour. A personal connection goes far!



Small Group Ministry Meetings

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in their midst."

Matthew 18:20



Home-base Small Group Ministry has been a part of the Christian experience from the very beginning. St. Luke writes the the first Christians "*met together in the Temple day by day and shared their meals together in different homes, sharing their food happily and freely.*" Personal relationships are the cornerstone of Christian life as we seek to imitate the love Christ has for us to the entire world.

Do you ever feel like the Cathedral is a bit large and you don't even know who the fellow parishioner is that that has sat in the pew across from you for 4 years and at this point you're too afraid to ask? Simply new to the parish and want to get to know others better?

Our Holy Trinity Cathedral is pleased to launch our own Home-based Small Group Ministry this fall to better facilitate these relationships in our parish family! Fellowship and relationship-building is the aim of this ministry as we share our love for and faith in Jesus Christ as Orthodox Christians.

We have a wonderful blueprint for our meetings that will make our times together wonderfully fruitful. Thank God, we already have four host families to get us started! Each group is free to establish its own meeting schedule and format as we get to know our newer parish members or expand our circle of friends. If you are interested in being a host or participating let us know! Training will be provided for leaders so have no fear to take on the task!

Email Fr. Apostolos by [clicking here](#) to join a group or lead!

METROPOLIS
E-News

TEXT SFNEWS TO
22828
to Subscribe!

St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

Submitted by Rita Papaspyrou

The Three Holy Hierarchs: St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom

Commemorated on January 30



During the reign of the Emperor Alexius Comnenus (1081-1118), a controversy arose in Constantinople among men learned in Faith and zealous for virtue about the three holy Hierarchs and Fathers of the Church, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom. Some argued for Saint Basil above the other two because he was able, as none other, to explain the mysteries of the Faith, and rose to angelic rank by his virtues. Organizer of monastic life, austere and demanding shepherd as to Christian morals, in him there was nothing base or of the earth. Hence, said they, he was superior to Saint Chrysostom who was by nature more easily inclined to absolve sinners.

The partisans of Saint Chrysostom retorted that the illustrious Archbishop of Constantinople had been no less zealous than Saint Basil in combating vices, in bringing sinners to repentance and in raising up the whole people to the perfection of the Gospel. The golden-mouthed shepherd

of matchless eloquence has watered the Church with a stream of homilies in which he interprets the divine word and shows its application in daily life with more accomplished mastery than the two other holy Doctors.

According to a third group, Saint Gregory the Theologian was to be preferred to the others by reason of the majesty, purity and profundity of his language. Possessing a sovereign mastery of all the wisdom and eloquence of ancient Greece, he had attained, they said to such a pitch in the contemplation of God that no one had been able to express the dogma of the Holy Trinity as perfectly as he.

With each faction setting up one of the Fathers against the other two in this way, the whole Christian people were soon caught up in the dispute, which far from promoting devotion to the Saints in the City, resulted in nothing but ill-feeling and endless argument. Then one night the three holy Hierarchs appeared in a dream to Saint John Mauropus, the Metropolitan of Euchaita (5 Oct.), separately at first, then together and, speaking with a single voice, they said: "As you see, the three of us are with God and no discord or rivalry divides us. Each of us, according to the circumstances and according to the inspiration that he received from the Holy Spirit, wrote and taught what befits the salvation of mankind. There is not among us a first, a second or a third, and if you invoke one of us the other two are immediately present with him. Therefore, tell those who are quarrelling not to create divisions in the Church because of us, for when we were on earth

St. Nectarios Bookstore Message continued on page 24

we spared no effort to re-establish unity and concord in the world. You can conjoin our three commemorations in one feast and compose a service for it, inserting the hymns dedicated to each of us according to the skill and knowledge that God has given you. Then transmit it to the Christians with the command to celebrate it each year. If they honor us thus as being with and in God, we give them our word that we will intercede for their salvation in our common prayer.” At these words, the Saints were taken up into heaven in a boundless light while conversing with one another by name.

Saint John immediately assembled the people and informed them of this revelation. As he was respected by all for his virtue and admired for his powerful eloquence, the three parties made peace and every one urged him to lose no time in composing the service of the joint feast. With fine discernment, he selected 30 January as appropriate to the celebration, for it would set the seal to the month in which each of the three Hierarchs already had a separate commemoration (Saint Basil - January 1; Saint Gregory - January 25; Saint John (translation of relics) - January 27).

The three Hierarchs—an earthly trinity as they are called in some of the wonderful troparia of their service—have taught us in their writings and equally by their lives, to worship and to glorify the Holy Trinity, the One God in three Persons. These three luminaries of the Church have shed the light of the true Faith all over the world, scorning dangers and persecutions, and they have left us, their descendants, this sacred inheritance by which we too can attain to utmost blessedness and everlasting life in the presence of God and of all the Saints.

Christmas Eve 2021



Narthex Censing



House of Stewards

Through 12/30/2021

Dorothy Ainslie
Peter & Sarah Agnos
Evan & Terri Alexon
Dina Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
Bettina Angelos
John & Sandy Annos
Elaine Apostle
Sheila Asala
Chris & Angie Athens
Christina Bakavelou
Diana Balos
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitzis
Helen Bixenman
James & Helen Bruno
Chris & Georgia Brusalis
Chris & Rita Bruskas
Kristen Bruskas
Constance Burkhart
Elias Carras
Kathy Carras
Frank & Alice Carris
Katie Chames
Laurel Charnas-Schiller
Harriet Chotras
Jim Chotras
Pete & Kim Choukalas
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke
Kathy Contes
Andy & Mara Contes
Jim & Connie Contes
Ed Cooper & Angie
Valerou-Cooper
Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos
Patty Davis
Len & Elaine Debickero
Hercules Dellas
Anastasia Dellas
Patrick & Karla Delord
Tom & Irene Demas
Joanne Demangus
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Bill DeMoss
Charles DeMoss
Chris DeMoss
John & Marjorie DeMoss
Basil Denaxas
Stan & Fran Drozd
Denise Dye

Kathryn Dye
Christos & Dena
Economopoulos
James & Lisa Elam
Fr. Alexander &
Presv. Laura Eliades
Greg & Helen Fernandez
Zach & Nikki Forman
Athanas & Georgia Fournalis
Athanasia Fournalis
Ted & Andi Fournalis
Tim Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgi Friehe
George & Julie Froumis
Niki Ganolis
Semos Gardner
Andreanna Georgiou
Thomas & Christina Georgiou
Demetra Georgelos
Diana Georgelos
Pamela Georgelos
John Giannopoulos
Polly Ginakes
Stella Glitsos
Eva Goodman
Bill & Lynn Graham
Gina Graham
David Haag
Mary Haidos
Donald Hall
Alexander Harding
Patsy Harris
Terry Harper
George & Georgette Hasiotis
Stephanie Heckel
Greg Hill
Rev. Fr. Apostolos &
Presv. Denise Hill
Bessie Hotis
Jason & Ekaterini Jaynes
Markos & Maggie Karakozis
Pavlos Kairis
James & Linda Kalivas
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos
Vasilios & Angela Kamboukos
Basile & Roula Kaneris
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis
Christina Karalekas
Pete & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Julie Karoutas
Leon & Fayi Katrakis
Christos & Kelley Katsanos

John & Mary Katsenes
Paul & Lori Katsenes
George Katsaros
Helen Katsoufrakis
James & Joann Karros
Jim & Poppy Kavouris
Fanny Kechajias
Cathy Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
George & Zanetta Kleanthis
Maria Kompos
Anastasia Kompos
Spiros & Maria Kontakis
Art & Carol Kostaras
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros
Nickolas Koziris
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas
Tammy Kretsedemas
Andreas & Cindy Kyprianou
Ted Kyriacou
Tassie Ladas
John & Angie Lambrou
Elias & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Steve & Constance Lemere
Mike & Lea Linares
Elizabeth Linos
Angiolo & Patricia Livi
Gregory Lizanich
Efterpi Lourias
Jim & Stephanie Machas
Phyllis Mack
Maria Maciejewski
Joanna Mackos
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Julie & Felix Mamani
Jim & Donna Manelis
Bette Maniatis
Maria Maniatis
Anna Manos
Bill & Rina Marinakos
Nicholas Marino
Douglas Markakis
D.L. Marudas & R.C. Caroll
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Pamela Maydanis
Peter & Christina Maydanis
Stacie McKenzie
Angela Mead
Joanne Meris
Will & Sandy Meris
Angeline Miller
Paul Miller
Bill & Jean Miller

House of Stewards Continued on page 26

Desert Springs January 2022

Anthony Moloqos
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell
Phillip & Helen Mitchell
Dino Moschovitis
Elias Mousa
Matthew & Sophie Neumann
Jerry & Kathy New
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
Anthony Nicoluzakis
Annamarie Nieblas
Marta Ntatsos
Pamela & Jeffrey Nolen
Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Anna Panagiotakopoulos
Thanasi & Melissa
Panagiotakopoulos
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou
Sofia Panagiotoglou
George & Chrysoula
Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie
Papadopoulos
Betty Papas
Nick Papas
Spyros & Rita Papaspyrou
Angeline Pappas
Irene Pappas

John & Andrea Pappas
Harry & Fannie Pappas
Gabriella Papatzimas
Alexander and Olga
Papamatheakis
Daniel & Anna Pardhe
Athena Parmenter
Kai & Katherine Pedersen
John & Dina Pesognelli
Dean & Fotini Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Chris Petroulakis
Jacque Petroulakis
Bill & Kathy Petsas
Michael & TeAnn Philippis
Brian & Athena Pickett
Mary Ann Pikulas
Georgia Pikoula
Andreas & Mary Poulakidas
George & Kay Poulos
Panagiotos & Anthipe Pries
Chris & Juli Pritsos
David & Nicole Pyle
Bertha Quinn
Lyda Rabbitt
Greg Sackos
Lois Sakkas
Jim & Donna Sampanes
Dimitra Hotis Sampson

Paul Sarantes
John Schneider
George & Angela Scopelianos
Diane Sedlacek
Chris & Terry Seretis
George & Traci Sgouros
Jeff & Risa Shaver
John Siavelis
Elyse Sioles
Robert & Donna Sioles
George & Evi Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
Elias & Theodora Staikos
Carol Sowers
Angelo & Marie Spanos
Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos
James & Christina Speros
Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Gerry & Nitsa Stamatelatos
Andy & Christine Stamatis
Chris Tapas
Despina Tavlarides
Billy & Becky Tavlarides
Nicholas & Effie Theodore
Gus & Mary Louise
Theodoropoulos
Jim G. Thomas
John & Teresa Thomas
Rev. Fr. John &
Diak. Mary Thrasher
Dominic Tropea
Thad & Kathy Tropea
Dean & Stella Tsantilas
Dimitri Tsioutsopoulos
Sotiros & Nicki Tsioutsopoulos
Costa & Koko Tzavaras
George & Connie Venetis
Teresa Valonis
Peter & Lindsay Vardalos
Kristen Vasilarakos
Argyro Vasquez
Scott & Terri Vaughn
John & Jean V. DalPan
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Peter and Maria Vlahos
Steve & Mary Vrahas
Catherine Wallerich
Colin and Paula Walsh
Michael & Christina
Wombacher
Richard & Katina Wood
David Worrell &
Stephanie Willard
Dimitri & Eugenia Zannis
George & Tina Zannis
Zella Zannis
Evangelina Zikos
Michael & Christina Zistatsis

Stewardship Overview

Sandy Meris, Chair
December 5, 2021



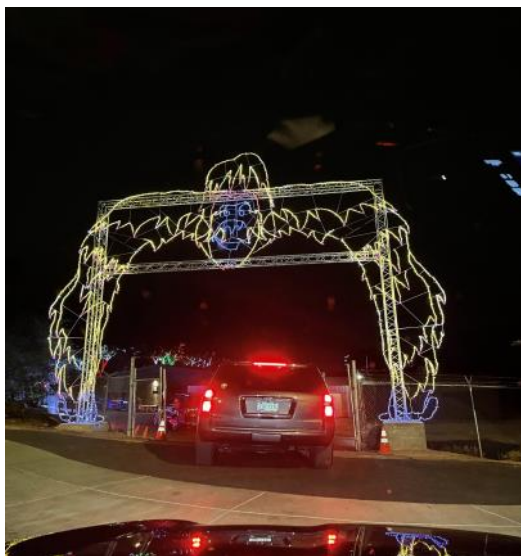
Daughters of Penelope



Daughters of Penelope
Helenos Chapter 432
Phoenix Arizona

Happy New Year 2022

Our Helenos Chapter had one last event to end the year. On Tuesday, December 7th we celebrated our holiday party by "Cruising Phoenix ZooLights." A good time was had by all.



We are starting out the New Year with an initiation on Sunday January 16, 2022. Our members are looking forward to welcoming the new initiates to our chapter. Some of our additional upcoming events include a wine tasting in February and the Annual Casino Night at the Talking Stick Resort in March.

We are looking forward to having our meetings in person this year...and... if you are interested in becoming a member, please contact our Helenos Vice President, Angie Lambrou, at (480) 540-5376.

Kali Hronia!!!

Daughters of Penelope, Helenos Chapter 432

Officers:

Cathy Keyser, *President*

Angie Lambrou, *Vice President*

Deedee Staikos, *Recording Secretary*

Connie Panagiotakopoulos, *Corresponding Secretary*

Anastasia Mitchell, *Treasurer*

Jennifer Bilitsis, *Marshal*

Julie Karoutas, *Officer at Large, AHEPA Liaison*

Tell Us Something Good

"Such fun to work with!"

"Can always count on her!"

"A 'can do' kind of person!"



That's a few comments about **Julie Karoutas**, Chair of Desert

Diamonds here at Holy Trinity as well as active member of St. Katherine Chapter Philoptochos and one always ready for joining in fellowship and helping others feel welcomed! *Thanks, Julie!*

Celebrating our graduates of the ASU Class of 2021:

Dr. Mary D. Pardhe-
Molecular and Cellular Biology Ph.D.



James S. Contes-
Master's of Engineering in
Engineering Management



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Anna & Daniel Pardhe on their 25th Anniversary!



Masks Appreciated

In accordance with current CDC guidance, the Holy Trinity community strongly recommends that everyone (vaccinated and unvaccinated) wear face masks inside the Church. As a reminder, my mask is for you and yours is for me. In this time of high transmission of a highly infectious strain, we have the opportunity to show our Christianity and wear masks to make the community as safe as it can be. This is a time for the parishioners of Holy Trinity to practice empathy and compassion for our most vulnerable members—our youth, those not vaccinated, and those who are vaccinated but immune compromised (and therefore at elevated risk levels). Thank you!

Fr. Apostolos & Fr. Alexander



OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Caroline Economopoulos, 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
ciecomom@gmail.com,
and we'll get you added to list!

Cookie Decorating

December 5, 2021



Youth Night

December 11, 2021



HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

DECEMBER YOUTH NIGHT

Join us for our usual evening of Faith, Fellowship, Fun, and Food but with some added Christmas Cheer! Grades 1-12 welcome!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 5-8PM
RSVP TO FR. ALEXANDER BY DEC. 8
AELIADES@HOLYTRINITYPHX.ORG

Youth Night

January 22, 2022

See you there!

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

JANUARY YOUTH NIGHT

Saturday, January 22, 5-8pm

Happy New Year! Join us for our flagship Youth Event and night of faith, fun, fellowship, and food!

RSVP to Fr. Alexander:
aeliades@holytrinityphx.org

High School Juniors and Seniors!


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is coming to
San Francisco!

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July 2-July 12, 2022—San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
Additional sessions in Brookline, MA and Chicago, IL.
Visit www.crossroadinstitute.org to apply today!

Greek Dance

Niko Panagiotakopoulos:
 call/text: (602) 469-2039
npanos01@yahoo.com

Next up—FDF in February!

The 45th Annual Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival

President's Day Weekend
 February 17th-20th, 2022
 Here in Phoenix!
 At the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown
 Hotel



January 23, 2022

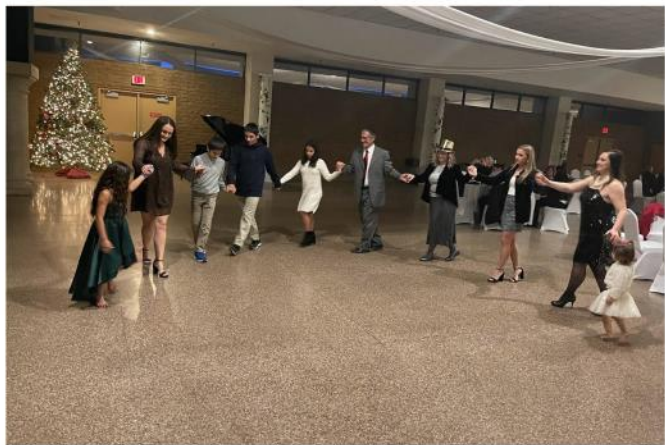
Following Divine Liturgy



Dance Schedule

Date	Day	
1/2/2022	Sunday	
1/5/2022	Wednesday	
1/8/2022	Saturday	Tentative Workshop
1/9/2022	Sunday	
1/12/2022	Wednesday	
1/19/2022	Wednesday	
1/22/2022	Saturday	Tentative Workshop
1/23/2022	Sunday	Soup & Salad Luncheon
1/26/2022	Wednesday	
1/29/2022	Saturday	Agape Ball (HS+)
1/30/2022	Sunday	
2/2/2022	Wednesday	
2/6/2022	Sunday	
2/9/2022	Wednesday	
2/11/2022	Friday	Tentative Musician Workshop
2/12/2022	Saturday	Tentative Musician Workshop
2/13/2022	Sunday	Tentative Musician Workshop
2/14/2022	Monday	Tentative Musician Workshop
2/15/2022	Tuesday	Dress Rehearsal

New Year's Eve 2021!



New Year's Eve 2021!

