



Sunday, December 1st, 2019 - 14th Sunday of Luke

This Morning's Readings

St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2: 14-22

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

The Gospel According to Luke 18: 35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

This Morning's Hymns

O Lord, by Your sacred cross You abolished death and granted unto the thief blessed paradise. The myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the good news at Your command that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy on the world evermore.

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον, τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Most blessed are You, O Christ our God, Who by sending down the Holy Spirit upon them, made the fishermen wise and through them illumined the world; and to You the universe was ever drawn, all glory to You, O Lord.

Εὐλογητός εἶ Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας φιλόανθρωπε, δόξα Σοι.

Today the Virgin cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word who was born before all ages; begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice, therefore, O universe if thou should hear and glorify with the angels and the shepherds. Glorify Him who by his own will shall become a newborn babe and who is our God before all ages.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν Προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting Holy Trinity Cathedral this morning we welcome you in the Name of the Lord! Orthodox Christian worship may be unlike other forms of worship you have encountered but you can follow along in the service book in the pews. (If you need assistance, simply ask the nearest parishioner.) And though Holy Communion is offered only to the Orthodox faithful who are prepared to receive the Holy Gifts, the blessed bread is offered to everyone after the service. Please sign our Guest Book in the narthex and join us for coffee and refreshments in the community center so we can get to know you. May your time with us be blessed!

Announcements

NARTHEX DUTY SCHEDULE

Group 3 - Juli Pritsos, coordinator

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

Open

EPISTLE READER

Katie Dye

SENIOR GOYA BOWLING OUTING

Join us on Friday, December 6th at 7pm for a bowling night for our Senior GOYA! Wear your ugly Christmas sweaters and RSVP to Alexander (aeliades@holytrinityphx.org) no later than December 3rd!

OCF COLLEGE MINISTRY DONATIONS NEEDED

Our weekly OCF college ministry meetings on the ASU campus have for four years been hosted in the Campus Christian Center facility on 10th & Mill Ave in Tempe. This non-profit campus ministry relies upon donations from participating churches to support the facilities they offer free of charge. It would be appropriate for us to offer a donation to this ministry in gratitude for their hospitality to the Orthodox students of ASU. Please mark your gift "OCF" and we will get it to the Campus Christian Center.

SEEKING CHURCH OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

We would like to invite you to join our Church Office Volunteer Staff. If you have general office experience and can work one day a week or more from 9:00am to 3:00pm, you are a perfect candidate. Please contact Paul Katsenes at Pkatsenes@cox.net or 602-421-7200.

HTA FALL 2020 ENROLLMENT

Holy Trinity Academy is now enrolling for Fall 2020, pick up a flyer in the Narthex and schedule a tour today! For more information please contact Juli Pritsos, Director at 602-248-3881 or julipritsos@holytrinityacademyphx.org.

AHF SCHOLARSHIPS

The Arizona Hellenic Foundation has several scholarships available for eligible college students. Deadline for applications is April 1, 2020. For eligibility requirements and scholarship applications please visit the Foundation's website, Azhellenic.org.

DESERT DIAMONDS CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Party & Potluck on Friday December 20th, we will meet at 11:30 am in the Holy Trinity Cathedral Speros Center. Lunch begins at 12:00 noon followed by Holiday Cheer! ***"What??" you say! You'll just have to attend to find out!*** If you plan to attend, please contact Julie Karoutas at juliekaroutas@gmail.com or by cell at 623-313-8720, you can also text Judith La Mond at 703-819-9957 (text only please), provide your name, your guests name, and what you plan to bring. **Thanking you to all in advance!**

This Week at Holy Trinity Cathedral

Today Sunday 12/1 14TH SUNDAY OF LUKE NATIVITY FAST	8:00 am - Matins 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy No Sunday School	No Dance Practice
Monday 12/2 NATIVITY FAST		7- 8:30 pm - 90th Anniversary Gala Meeting (Lounge) 8:00 pm - Pickup Basketball (HTC Basketball Court)
Tuesday 12/3 NATIVITY FAST	10:00 - Bible Study (Lounge)	6:00 pm - OCF (ASU campus)
Wednesday 12/4 NATIVITY FAST		5:00 pm - Greek School 7:00 pm - Choir Practice 7:00 pm - Dance practice
Thursday 12/5 SAVAS THE SANCTIFIED NATIVITY FAST		7:00 pm -Philoptochos Meeting 7:00 pm -Young Adult Meeting
Friday 12/6 NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER NATIVITY FAST	8:00 am -Matins 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy	7:00 pm - Sr. Goya Bowling
Saturday 12/7 AMBROSE OF MILAN NATIVITY FAST		10:00 am - Day of Christmas Cheer (Speros Center)
Sunday 12/8 10TH SUNDAY OF LUKE NATIVITY FAST STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY	8:00 am - Matins 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Sunday School Stewardship Luncheon	11:45 am - Youth Choir 12:30 pm - Dance practice

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

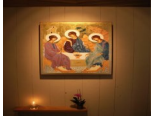
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Ορεκτικό *An appetizer before the main course*

Thanksgiving & The Eucharist

December 1st, 2019

As we recover from the blissful food coma which accompanies the Thanksgiving holiday, at long last fully in the Christmas Holiday Season, it behooves us to reflect for a moment on the essential role of Gratitude in our spiritual lives. This is particularly true of us as Orthodox Christians for whom the celebration of the Holy Eucharist comprises the central core of our life in Christ.

Memories of elementary school Thanksgiving pageants, of the mornings spent glued to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as the windows of our parents' home fogged over as the meal is prepared, and of that chilly morning football game played with neighborhood friends re-emerge this time of year. But beneath these blessed memories lie a deeper and more substantial truth.

St. Paul writes; *"In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* (1 Thes. 5:18) Gratitude to God (*Ευχαριστήρια*) defines the life of the practicing Christian who, even in difficult times, perceives life as a divine gift. Ingratitude blinds one even to obvious blessings and casts a shadow over the whole of one's life. Nothing ever satisfies, nothing is ever enough, every silver lining has a cloud. Left unchallenged and uncorrected, ingratitude saps the color from our lives and predisposes us to gloom and restlessness.

But to embrace our own lives and our lots *με ευχαριστία*, with gratitude, fills us with strength and resilience in times of trials and with a full measure of joy in times of blessing. How can we condition ourselves to become a people of gratitude, to acquire the grace and ability to give thanks to God "in everything," as St. Paul instructs us to do?

Simply by faithfully and consistently participating in the Eucharistic Banquet offered in the Divine Liturgy, our predisposition to ingratitude and self-centeredness can be supplanted by a spirit of thanksgiving and Christ-focused living! *"I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart, I will enter His courts with praise!"* writes the Psalmist (100:4) And as we learn, more and more, how to apprehend the gentle hands of our merciful and loving Creator-God, holy gratitude and with it, humility, peace, contentedness, and patience, is birthed within us.

If ever a national holiday deserved to be embraced and Christified by the Church, it must surely be this Thanksgiving Holiday. As we work through our leftovers and let our belts out a notch or two, may we ask God for the grace and wisdom to continually become a people of immense gratitude for His love and mercy on us!

In Christ,

Fr. Apostolos



Our Food Drive has begun ! Don't forget to bring in your non-perishable food items. All items will be donated to St. Mary's Food Bank. There will be food boxes in the Narthex, Community Center and the office.

Items most needed include:

- Protein - Peanut butter
Canned light chicken
Canned ravioli
- Fruits - All varieties of fruits, packed in 100% fruit juice or no sugar added
- Vegetables - Canned vegetables, low or no sodium
Dry beans or low sodium canned beans
- Grains - Whole grain or 100% whole wheat boxed cereals, low sugar

Key words: low in saturated fat, low fat, lean, low sugar, pasked in 100% juice, packed in water, low in sodium, 100%whole wheat, high fiber, whole grain.

If you have any questions, please contact Connie Venetis at 602-702-9965 or at bird_is_the_word@msn.com.

CC & Company Adventures Presents...

Philoptochos Holiday Trip

Casino & Sightseeing Adventure, Cliff Castle Casino, Camp Verde,
and Prescott, **Arizona's Christmas City**

Thursday, December 12th

\$60 per person

Open to All

Trip includes:

- Luxury fully equipped Motor Coach with Certified Driver
- **\$25 'FREE play'** from Cliff Castle Casino voted #1 for nearly **2 decades!**
- **SPIN to WIN \$5 to \$200 'FREE play'** for all **NEW** members of the Club!
 - Over 660 SLOTS, Live Blackjack and Poker & Bowling!
 - Earn a **Complimentary Breakfast OR Lunch BUFFET** at the Mountain Springs Buffet with only 100 points on your player's card!
 - 27th Annual **Gingerbread Village**, Prescott Resort Lobby
- **Historic Whiskey Row**, featuring the wondrously lit **Courthouse Square** for shopping, antique browsing, art galleries, restaurants & more...
 - **Enchanted Christmas Tour of Lights & Christmas Store**, an amazing Indoor display of ½ million lights, Gateway Mall
- **Valley of Lights**, a spectacular display of over one million, Prescott Valley
 - Driver's Gratuity

Please sign up & pay Julie Karoutas, 623-313-8720 by Friday, Nov. 29th.

Please make checks payable to: CC & Company

Bring your friends and family to enjoy the FUN!

Departure: 8:00am

Think Winning & Fun!!!

Cliff Castle Casino is owned & operated by the Yavapai-Apache Nation

MUST HAVE PHOTO ID - NO CAMERAS ALLOWED in casino - MUST be 21 to enter



ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY BAKLAVA
FROM PHILOPICHOS NOW!

\$20 per pan

Pre-paid orders will be taken Sundays
during Coffee Hour
November 10 – December 8

Deadline to place orders is December 8

Orders may be picked up on Sunday
December 15 during Coffee Hour

For questions call: Bessie Hotis: 602-953-1913
Mary Louise Theodoropoulos: 602-943-5080



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.

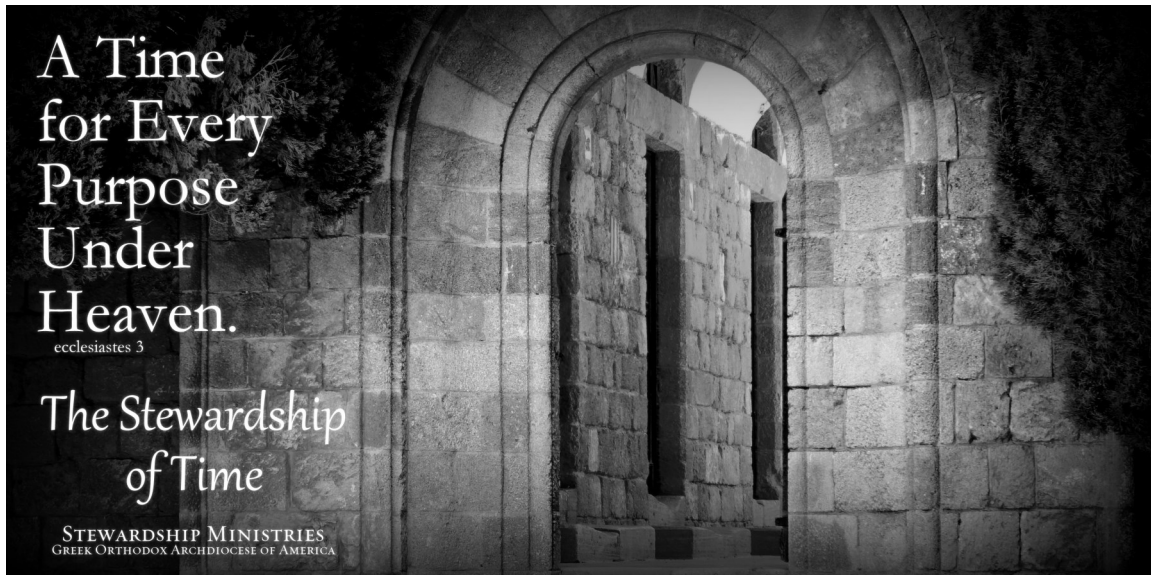


- Every night they provide safe shelter and supportive services for over 170 homeless families.
- They offer nearly 300 units of affordable housing across the Valley, each with special Program Centers for residents.
- They helped 269 parents find jobs through our employment services.
- They provide healthcare services, childcare, job training and services for veterans.

Holy Trinity Cathedral has been supporting UMOM for several years. We even have a group that goes to UMOM New Day Centers monthly to feed the homeless.

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!

What is Christian Stewardship?



Christian Stewardship is...

...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

...caring for the needs of others.

...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief.

...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal.

Williams & McKibben in Oriented Leadership



Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. God has given each of us special and unique gifts. And through Holy Scripture He teaches us all that we have is a loan. He lends everything to us, and reminds us that

one day He will ask us to give a detailed accounting of what we have done with the gifts He has given us. Archbishop Anastasios of Albania has noted that “we find ourselves by offering ourselves.” Have we learned the blessedness of generously giving to others of all we have?