



Sunday, December 15th, 2019 - 11th Sunday of Luke

This Morning's Readings

St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 1:8-18

TIMOTHY, my son, do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago, and now has manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, and therefore I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus; guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, and among them Phygelos and Hermogenes. May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphoros, for he often refreshed me; he was not ashamed of my chains, but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me eagerly and found me - may the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesos.

The Gospel According to Luke 14:16-24

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

This Morning's Hymns

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior, on the third day You arose and unto all the world did You give life; whereby all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the Giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ! Glory unto Your kingdom! Glory to Your economy, O You alone Who loves mankind.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτὴρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν· διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι ζωοδότα. Δόξα τῇ Ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε φιλόνηρωπε.

By faith You justified the Forefathers, having through them betrothed to yourself the Church that came out of the nations. The saints are boasting in glory; for the glorious fruit, the Virgin who without seed gave birth to You, is from their progeny. At their entreaties, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Ἐν πίστει τοὺς Προπάτορας ἐδικαίωσας, τὴν ἐξ ἔθνων δι' αὐτῶν προμνηστευσάμενος Ἐκκλησίαν. Καυχῶνται ἐν δόξῃ οἱ Ἅγιοι, ὅτι ἐκ σπέρματος αὐτῶν, ὑπάρχει καρπὸς εὐκλεῆς, ἡ ἀσπύρωσ τεκοῦσά σε. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἱκεσίαις, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

You were fully adorned with the sacred priestly robes. You were dripping with streams of your own martyric blood. In this state, you ran to Christ your Master, O blessed Saint Eleftherius, destroyer of Satan; you are wise. Therefore cease not interceding for us who loyally honor your blessed contest of martyrdom.

Ἱερέων ποδῆρει κατακοσμούμενος, καὶ αἱμάτων τοῖς ρεῖθροις ἐπισταζόμενος, τῷ Δεσπότη σου Χριστῷ μάκαρ ἀνέδραμες, Ἐλευθέριε σοφέ, καθαιρέτα τοῦ Σατᾶν. Διὸ μὴ παύση πρεσβεύων, ὑπὲρ τῶν πίστει τιμώντων, τὴν μακαρίαν σου ἄθλησιν.

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 Χριστέ ὁ Θεός ἡμῶν ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας φιλόνηρωπε, 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 ἀκουσθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

Announcements

NARTHEX DUTY SCHEDULE

Group 2: George Venetis - Coordinator

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

Group 1: St. Basil the Great

EPISTLE READER

Garrett Widner

MEMORIALS UPDATE

Beginning in the New Year, we will aggregate memorials on the first Sunday of each month *for all memorials beyond the one year mark*. For those who have recently reposed and whose families wish to celebrate their memorial on the nearest Sunday, we will accommodate their requests as we are now, e.g., for 40-day, 6-months, and one year memorials. All those past the one year anniversary mark will be celebrated on the first Sunday of each month *with the usual exceptions for Major Feasts, e.g., from Lazarus Sunday through Thomas Sunday, Pentecost, etc., and other Sundays as directed by Fr. Apostolos*.

DESERT DIAMONDS CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Our Annual Christmas Party & Potluck is this Friday, December 20. We will meet at 11:30am 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 LaMond at 703-819-9957 (text only please). Please provide your name, your guest's name(s), and what you plan to bring. Thanks to all in advance!

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.

Budget This Week at Holy Trinity Cathedral

Today Sunday 12/15 10TH SUNDAY OF LUKE NATIVITY FAST	8:00 am - Matins 40 day blessing - Maximos Alexander Eliades 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Sunday School Budget Parish Assembly Philoptochos Bake Sale	11:30 am - Youth & Cathedral Choirs rehearsal 12:30 pm - Dance Practice 2:00 pm - Horvath/Chise wedding
Monday 12/16 NATIVITY FAST		8:00 pm - Pickup Basketball (HTC Basketball Court)
Tuesday 12/17 NATIVITY FAST	10:00 am - Bible Study (Lounge)	
Wednesday 12/18 NATIVITY FAST		5:00 pm - Greek School 6:00 pm - HTA Christmas Program 7:00 pm - Choir Practice 7:00 pm - Dance practice
Thursday 12/19 NATIVITY FAST		6:00 pm - AHEPA meeting 7:00 pm - Young Adult Ugly Christmas Sweater Party
Friday 12/20 IGNATIUS THE GOD- BEARER NATIVITY FAST	8:00 am - Matins 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy 11:30 am - Desert Diamonds Potluck	7:00 pm - Sr. GOYA
Sunday 12/22 SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY NATIVITY FAST	8:00 am - Matins 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Rebecca Davis chrismation John Zoukis memorial Sunday School Christmas Pageant	12:30 pm - Dance practice 4:00 pm - Leach baptism

MEMORIAL TODAY:

Mary J. Speliopoulos - 20 years - Offered by Son, Leo and Rachel Speliopoulos, Grandchildren, Susan and Nicolas, Great Granddaughters, Savannah, Alexandra and Makenna.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85016 Office: 602.264. 7863
Holy Trinity website: www.holytrinityphx.org
Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill, Proistamenos: htpriest@holytrinityphx.org



Ορεκτικό

An appetizer before the main course

A Well-Earned Rest

December 15th, 2019

For the last 20 years, our Holy Trinity Cathedral has enjoyed the humble services of the devoted servant of God, Deacon John Thrasher. The good deacon has been a fixture in our community quietly ministering to the needs of the faithful with dignity and honor, visiting the sick and elderly, seeing to the good order of the Holy Altar, and offering encouragement to many.

Now, the good Deacon has requested from His Eminence and received a blessing to retire from active ministry after the Holidays. As you may know, Dn. John has undergone a host of procedures to strengthen his ailing back and often served the Altar through a veil of pain and intense discomfort. Such is his devotion to the calling.

(You may stop reading now, my dear brother, since I'm going to say some nice things about you, and I know you won't like it.)

Dn. John's level of commitment is truly inspiring. He has been a true friend to me, embracing our family immediately upon our arrival in Phoenix and encouraging me in times of great fatigue and struggle. He is much-loved at the women's monastery of St. Paisios in Safford, AZ where every dirt road in the monastery grounds was cleared and leveled by Dn. John on the monastery's tractor.

His warm-hearted generosity and steady demeanor (*even if he is a Buffalo Bills fan!*) are aspirational qualities and even in his retirement he will serve as an exemplar of the Orthodox Christian faith. Dn. John simply wants to sit in the services with his family and, as he has told me many times, "work on his own soul."

He has graciously agreed to continue assisting me with Holy Communion until Alexander Eliades is ordained as our second Cathedral priest in the spring to alleviate any concern over very long Communion lines. The very last thing Dn. John will want to hear are expressions of gratitude and support from each of you. Too bad! Tell him anyway!

Our dear brother isn't going anywhere, except back to Buffalo each summer to enjoy his lakeside home where, curiously, he has never developed a taste for fresh fish! (Really, John?) As he prepares to hang up his spurs and enjoy a well-earned rest, I am left to hope that I might one day become as devoted and humble a servant of God as he is.

We will shortly plan an appropriate retirement celebration for Dn. John, and I believe that a tremendous seafood buffet would be in order! (*You can have the salad, brother!*) May God richly bless him as he has blessed this community in his service to us in his deaconate!

Please join me in offering Dn. John your expressions of love and gratitude!

In Christ,

Fr. Apostolos



POINSETTIAS IN MEMORY OF...

Georgia & Mary Alvantides
Sam Apostle
Tiffani Noelle Bichekas
Alice Collins
George Collins
Peter Collins
Susan Cornist
Frances Daskalakis
Paul Glitsos
Ruth Hotis
Charles Kakadeles
George Kantaros
Eleni Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. George Koutris
John D. Maniatis
Peter D. Maniatis
Mary Ellen Maniatis
Nicholas Meris
Konstantine Papadopoulos
James Papas
George Spenzos
Katherine Spenzos
Kalliope Stavrou
Steve Stavrou
Father James & Presvytera Catherine Tavlarides
Takie Tavlarides
Barnabas Taylor
Angelo Valonis
George Valonis
Kevin Francis Walsh

...MEMORY ETERNAL!



There's still time, our Food Drive has been extended! The last day to bring in your donated, non-perishable food items is now **Sunday, December 22nd**. St. Mary's Food Bank will pick up the items the following Monday, just in time for Christmas. For everyone's convenience we have placed food boxes in the Narthex, Community Center, HTA and in 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, packed 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 602-702-3365 or at bird_is_the_word@msn.com.


Mark your calendars for these upcoming
Philoptochos events!





 **Sunday, December 15, 2019:**
Annual Bake Sale featuring baklava, tsoureki, koulourakia, and many other home-made treats!
-Following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Community Center

 **Sunday, January 5, 2020:**
Vasilopita Cutting and Auction
-Following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Community Center



 **Thursday, January 9, 2020:**
January Meeting on the *SECOND* Thursday.
-7:00pm in the Lounge of the Speros Community Center

 **Saturday, January 25, 2020:**
Valley Chapters' Kids 'n' Cancer Agape Ball .
-Set up on Friday, January 24, 2020.
-Speros Community Center

 **Sunday, February 9, 2020:**
Annual Sweetheart Brunch
-Set up on Saturday, February 8, 2020.
-Following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Community Center
-Women are encouraged to wear RED!

We look forward to YOUR participation!



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.



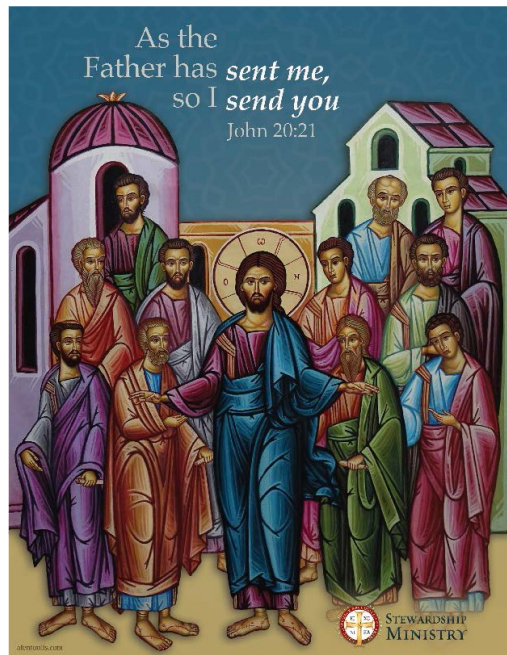
- Every night they provide safe shelter and supportive services for over 170 homeless families.
- They offer nearly 300 units of affordable housing across the Valley, each with special Program Centers for residents.
- They helped 269 parents find jobs through our employment services.
- They provide healthcare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

2020 STEWARDSHIP

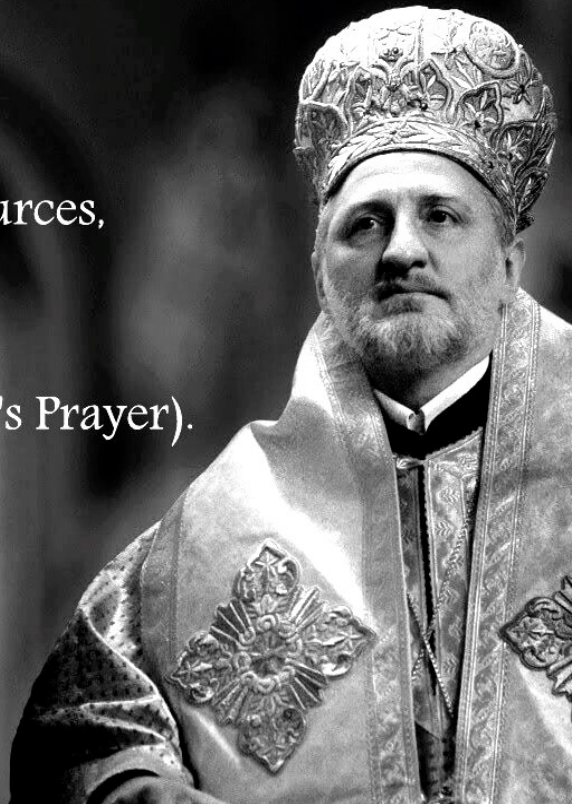
You are the Voice of Christ in a Changing World



The base from which we serve as the Voice of Christ in a Changing World is the parish. A strong parish provides opportunities for sharing the Good News of Christ, for welcoming those that are searching for a spiritual home, and a base from which we are sent out into the world. The parish also provides a place for worship, community and education in the faith. To be stewards of the Gospel, we need to be stewards of our parish. This requires the vision and inspiration to see the parish, not as it is, but as it could be. We are called to offer ourselves and our treasure to make our local church all that it can be.

...when we demonstrate respectful consideration for the earth's natural resources, then we can also begin to discern the perspective of the kingdom “on earth as it is in heaven” (the Lord's Prayer).

Archbishop Elpidophoros of America



Stewardship of Creation

NOW ENROLLING FOR FALL 2020!



Let's learn and grow together!

As parents you want the best for your child – the best foods, the best care, to have the best pediatrician, the best baby sitters, and of course the best schools. At HTA our rich curriculum emphasizes a strong academic foundation that develops curiosity and an early love of learning through the use of songs, dance, play, and a variety of hands-on activities that we think is just the best! Don't miss the opportunity for your child to receive the best foundation at the only Orthodox early childhood learning center in Arizona!

- *Licensed by AZDHS • Safe and Caring Environment*
 - *Meets and exceeds Arizona state standards*
- *Fine Art & Gardening Programs • Intro to Greek Language*
- *Before and After Care Available • Small Class Sizes*
 - *Specializing in ECE and ECD*

PRIVATE TOURS AVAILABLE | 602-248-3881



HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY

Accelerated learning in a nurturing environment

Preschool and Kindergarten

1973 E. Maryland Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85032 | htaphx.org

Located on the campus of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral