



Sunday, December 29th, 2019 - Sunday after Nativity

This Morning's Readings

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1: 1-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

The Gospel According to Matthew 2: 13-23

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

This Morning's Hymns

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος, ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος, ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιλίας ᾄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τῆς γνώσεως ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἀστροῖς λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

Εὐαγγελίζου Ἰωσήφ, τῷ Δαυῖδ τὰ θαύματα τῷ Θεοπάτορι· Παρθένον εἶδες κυοφορήσασαν, μετὰ Μάγων προσεκύνησας, μετὰ Ποιμένων ἐδοξολόγησας, δι' Ἀγγέλου χρηματισθεὶς. Ἰκέτευε Χριστὸν τὸν Θεόν, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

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 Θεὸς ἡμῶν ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

On this day the Virgin gives birth to the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation, a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

Announcements

NARTHEX DUTY SCHEDULE - Group 4: Parish Council

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE - Open

EPISTLE READER - Andrew Delord

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Please join us for the Parish Council Election today following Liturgy. The polls will be open in the Large Hall from noon to 1:00pm.

AGAPE BALL

Tickets are for sale in the Large Hall during Coffee Hour through Sunday, January 15.

SECURITY CONCEPT FOR OUR PARISHES

January 29, 2020 at 6:00pm at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Officer David Mena, Tactical Training, Phoenix Police Department, will discuss and have Q & A on the concept of Run, Hide, Fight. Each of us should have a plan on how to react under stress if we ever experience someone with a weapon in our Cathedral. All parishioners are welcome - especially our Narthex teams, Choir members and youth. Assumption, St. Katherine and St. Haralambos churches have also been invited to participate.

iPADS NEEDED

Holy Trinity is in need of two (2) iPads for Point-of-Sale usage in the office and Cathedral. If you have a gently-used, fairly new iPad or would like to donate one, please contact Diana in the church office.

GOYA WINTER RETREAT

We are thrilled to be offering our annual GOYA Winter Retreat in Flagstaff on January 17-19! Everyone from 7-12 grade is invited to join us in a fun weekend of time in the snow, games, talks, and fun. Please register at assumptionaz.org/winterretreat by January 1. For any questions, please email Fr. Jacob Saylor at frjacob@assumptionaz.org.

WELCOME!

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church is reserved for those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Gifts by having arrived at a respectful time in the service, and having recently confessed and kept the appointed fasts. If you are not prepared to receive the Holy Gifts we invite you to instead receive the blessed bread from Fr. Apostolos at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

This Week at Holy Trinity Cathedral

Today Sunday 12/29 SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY	8:00 am - Matins 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy No Sunday School Parish Council Election	12:30 pm - Dance Practice 5:00 pm - Tom Contes visitation 6:00 pm - Tom Contes Trisagion (at Grimshaw Mortuary)
Monday 12/30	HTA on break through January 3 9:00 am - Tom Contes funeral	8:00 pm - Pickup Basketball (HTC Basketball Court)
Wednesday 1/1 ST. BASIL THE GREAT/ CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST NEW YEAR'S DAY	8:00 am - Matins 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy Office Closed	
Friday 1/3	9:00 am - Royal Hours of Theophany	
Sunday 1/5	8:00 am - Matins 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy Small Blessing of the Waters Sunday School Philoptochos tray for St. Basil's Academy Vasilopita Cutting & Auction	11:45 am - Youth Choir rehearsal 12:30 pm - Dance practice

MEMORIAL TODAY:

Georgeta-Eleni Popescu - 7 years. Offered by Dan Popescu.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

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Diana Camacho - Office Manager adminassist@holytrinityphx.org

Parish Council: Jim Manelis - President, Paul Katsenes - Vice President,

Dina Anagnopoulos - Treasurer, Connie Contes - Assistant Treasurer, Andi Furlis - Secretary,

Charles DeMoss, Sandy Meris, Socrates Papadopoulos, Adam Venetis



Ορεκτικό *An appetizer before the main course*

The Odd Man Out

December 29th, 2019

Quite often in the Christmas story we tend to overlook one of the more major players in the story. The role of “Joseph the Betrothed” as we refer to him in the Orthodox Church is an extremely important one in the birth of Christ and all that played out after the Nativity. Joseph himself was already an elder of the Jewish community and as we learn throughout different points, had already been married and had children. After his wife died, he lived in holiness and distinction, often being found praying in the Temple in Jerusalem. We read much of his story in the Apocrypha of John which was written in the early 100s.

His holiness brought him to intersect with Mary who had lived in the Temple from her youth until the age of 14. She lived in holiness and prayer in the Temple from her youth until the Elders of the Temple saw the need for her to be protected by an honorable union rather than live in the Temple where one of the many passers-by could have evil intentions with her. When she turned 14 they called the holiest widowers of Jerusalem together and drew straws as to who was to be betrothed to Mary and Joseph was selected in this way to take her under his protection. From the earliest traditions of the Church we find that Joseph was not in this for a traditional marriage, but for the safeguarding of this holy girl who had need of protection.

Naturally when Joseph found out Mary was with child he was distraught. He had failed in his task appointed from the Temple to protect her from this exact situation. When he was visited in a dream by an angel, he immediately realized this even greater responsibility: the need to protect the Messiah. We hear in the Gospels, specifically Matthew, of the many trials that Mary had to endure before and after the birth of Christ and we rightfully honor her for these many sacrifices along with many, many other reasons. However, we cannot overlook Joseph. Although he was not the father and never did “know” Mary, this elder (most likely somewhere around his 70s) did not hesitate to travel with the pregnant Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem, then from Bethlehem to Egypt, then from Egypt back to Nazareth. Not in a plane, nor in a car, but most likely on a donkey, on dangerous roads.

While we do not honor Joseph in quite the same light as many of our Western Christian friends do, we must recognize, and once again seek to emulate (I know I say this every week, but I mean it!), the great obedience to God’s Will, piety, and humility of Joseph. He most likely assumed his duties in tending to Mary would consist of feeding and keeping her safe in his hometown, little did he know he would be protecting the Mother of God and God Incarnate as a babe, from Nazareth to Egypt and back. May we all be so in tune with God’s Will through our attentiveness to Him in prayer and humility.

In Christ,

Alexander Eliades
Pastoral Assistant

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George Collins
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...MEMORY ETERNAL!



Agape Ball 2020

Arizona Philoptochos Presents
Our Twelfth Annual Glendi
Supporting
Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape

Saturday, January 25, 2020

Holy Trinity Cathedral

1973 E Maryland Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Greek & American Music

By DJ

Nick Bafaloukas

Greek Dancers

Live Cocktail Hour

Entertainment by

Bill Ypsilanti

Silent Auction

50/50 Raffle

Cocktails & Appetizers - 6:30pm

Buffet & Dancing - 7:30 pm

Featuring Homemade Greek Specialties

\$45

Cocktail Attire ~ Black Tie Optional

For Reservations or Information Contact:

Georgia Fourlis - (602) 291-5911

Or

Lois Sarkas - (602) 277-5182

Give your heart to a child!

Agape Ball ~ Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape

Kindly respond before January 15, 2020
Sponsorship levels—please see below for details

Agape (Love) \$5,000 - Pistis (Faith) \$2,500 - Elpida (Hope) \$1,000 - Filia (Friendship) \$500

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Parish: _____

E-mail: _____

Please Reserve _____ seats @ \$45 each* \$ _____

I/We wish to sponsor an additional gift \$ _____

I am unable to attend; please accept my gift \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Check # _____ Cash (Present Credit Cards in person)

Your donation is
tax-deductible to the
full extent permitted
by law

Agape (Love) \$5,000

Includes name recognition in program, VIP service for 20 guests.

Table Hosts: _____

Guests seated at my table

Pistis (Faith) \$2,500

Includes name recognition in program, VIP service for 15 guests.

1. _____

2. _____

Elpida (Hope) \$1,000

Includes name recognition in program, VIP service for 10 guests.

3. _____

4. _____

Filia (Friendship) \$500

Includes name recognition in program, table for 8 guests.

5. _____

6. _____

Please make donations payable to:

Philoptochos Kids 'n' Cancer

Please bring or send reservation/donation form to:

Holy Trinity Cathedral
St. Katherine Philoptochos
1973 E Maryland Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____