This Morning’s Readings

St. Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy 4: 5-8

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Gospel According to Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished. To the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore, and Christ our God is risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy.

The Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream with his mantle in the wake of Elias's ascent; and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. And Christ appeared at the Jordan River to sanctify the waters.

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.

To the flowing streams today of River Jordan comes the Lord and cries aloud to John the Baptist, and He says, “Be not afraid to baptize me now; for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

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.
Announcements

NARTHEX DUTY SCHEDULE - Group 3: Juli Pritsos - Coordinator

ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE - Group 3 - St. Gregory the Theologian

EPISTLE READER - Sofia Walsh

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES
Our annual offering envelopes have been delayed due to an equipment problem at the printer. As soon as we receive them they will be available for pickup outside the Cathedral or in the Narthex. In the meantime, there are blank envelopes in the Narthex available for your use.

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

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 as soon as possible. For any questions, please email Fr. Jacob Saylor at frjacob@assumptionaz.org.

DESERT DIAMONDS OUTING
On Thursday, January 16, Desert Diamonds will be meeting at 11:15am for a luncheon at the Golden Greek restaurant, 7128 N. 35th Avenue. Your quick response to Julie Karoutas at juliekaroutas@gmail.com or (623)313-8720. Come, let’s celebrate the New Year together!

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.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Philoptochos tray for St. Basil’s Academy</td>
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<td>Vasilopita Cutting &amp; Auction</td>
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<td>Blessing of the Waters</td>
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<td><strong>SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST</strong></td>
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**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral**

1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85016 Office: 602.264. 7863
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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 Fourlis - Secretary,
Charles DeMoss, Sandy Meris, Socrates Papadopoulos, Adam Venetis
You may remember that it is the Tradition of the Orthodox Church to seal within each consecrated Altar Table the relics of the Holy Martyrs. And within the 4 ton granite Altar in our beloved Cathedral are sealed the relics of two early 4th century, Hieromartyr (which means martyred Bishop) Theopemptus of Nicomedia and the converted sorcerer Theonas. It is customary to celebrate the Divine Liturgy in honor of the saints whose relics reside in a parish’s Altar Table which, of course, we do annually since their memory coincides with the Forefeast of Holy Theophany. The story is as follows;

"The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas suffered in Nicomedia in the year 303. Saint Theopemptus was bishop in Nicomedia in the time of Diocletian. Speaking out against idolatry, he defended the faith in Christ. Because of this, he became one of the first victims of the Diocletian persecution.

"The saint refused to obey the emperor’s order to worship an idol of Apollo. Saint Theopemptus was thrown into a red-hot furnace, but by the power of God he remained alive. The emperor came to the furnace by night with a detachment of soldiers, and there he saw the saint alive and praying to God. Ascribing the miracle to magic, Diocletian thought to exhaust Saint Theopemptus by depriving him of food and drink for twenty-two days, but the martyr was preserved by the will of God.

"The emperor brought the famous sorcerer Theonas to overcome Bishop Theopemptus’ supposed magical power. Theonas prepared a poison for Saint Theopemptus, put it into a little cake, and offered it to him to eat. The poison did no harm at all to Saint Theopemptus. Then Theonas tried an even stronger poison on the martyr. Seeing that Saint Theopemptus remained unharmed, he came to believe in Christ. They threw him into prison together with the holy bishop, who taught and baptized him, giving him the name Synesios (which means “full of understanding”).

"At dawn Diocletian summoned Saint Theopemptus, and again tried to turn him to pagan impiety. Seeing that the bishop remained firm in his faith, he subjected him to many grievous tortures, after which the saint was beheaded. The holy martyr Theonas refused to offer sacrifice to idols, so he was buried alive in a deep ditch. This occurred at Nicomedia in the year 303."

In Christ,

Fr. Apostolos
THE BEATITUDES

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

O blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

O blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

O blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth.

O blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be satisfied.

O blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy.

O blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

O blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.

O blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

O blessed when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for My sake.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven.
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!

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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 Ypilanti
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) 277-5132

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 - Pteisa (Faith) $2,500 - Elpida (Hope) $1,000 - Fila (Friendship) $500

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Address: ____________________________

City: ___________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Telephone: ____________________ Parish: __________________

Email: ____________________________

Please Reserve ____________ seats @ $45 each* $ ____________

If we wish to sponsor an additional gift $ ____________

If unable to attend, please accept my gift $ ____________

Total amount enclosed $ ____________

☐ Check # ________  ☐ Cash  (Pay Credit Cards in person)

Table Host: ____________________________

Guests seated at my table

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
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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