Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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Sunday Worship
Cathedral
8:00am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

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Dina Anagnopoulos—Treasurer
Tiffani Bichekas—Assistant Treasurer
Angela Raup—Secretary
Charles DeMoss, Andi Fourlis,
Tony Nicoluzakis,
Alexi Panagiotakopoulos

Holy Trinity Cathedral Website
www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco Website
www.SanFran.goarch.org

Archdiocese Website
www.goarch.org

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All Saints Camp — Evan Tsagaris
Altar Servers — Deacon John Thrasher, David Haag, Chris Francis
Bible Study — Anthony Arger
Bookstore — Patsy Harris
Choir — Terri Alexon
Dance — Niko Panagiotakopoulos
Daughters of Penelope — Connie Panagiotakopoulos
Desert Diamonds (50+) — Nikolette Tavlarides, Sheila Asala
Feed the Homeless — Christine Stamatis
Greek Festival — Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas, Kristen
Vasilarakos
Greek School — Irene Mackos
Holy Trinity Academy Parochial School — TeAnn Philippis, Juli
Pritso
HOPE & JOY — Karla DeLord, Alexia Haugen
Koinonia — Dan Valenzuela, Sophie Miller-Martinez
Little Lambs — Jennifer Kourouglos
M aids of Athena — Gabriella Papatzimas
M useum — Bessie Hotis
M yrrhbearers — Diakonissa Mary Thrasher
OPA — Cindy Kyprianou
One Spirit+One Vision — Charlie DeMoss
Parish Council — Connie Contes
Philoptochos — Alex Anagnopoulos
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button within an article to link to an album in
Google Photos to see more pictures of the events
profiled on the page.

Email links, website links, Facebook links,
and document links will work too, directly from this publication.

Check them out!
**Message from Father Apostolos**

**Taking Off the Training Wheels**

Very few of us today will have forgotten that magic moment in childhood when our fathers removed the training wheels from our bicycles for the first time. I yet recall my excitement as Dad removed those infernal contraptions, eager as I was to hop on the saddle and fly! My yellow (with black racing stripes!) banana-seat bike sped down the gravel alley before I slammed the brakes to skid to a dramatic stop! And though I would gather a few stitches and leave a bit of my skin on the streets of the neighborhood, a love affair was born in that less-enlightened era before helmets!

And as another academic year begins, many of our young adults will be kicking off the training wheels as they leave their parents home to enter university life. The monk-priest and prolific writer and churchman Thomas Merton wrote that anything seems possible to the young college student walking onto campus for the first time, textbooks in hand. Parents feel a swell of pride in their young ones' accomplishments and perhaps a bit of apprehension for their well-being.

But there comes a time when fledglings must leave the nest and try their wings despite whatever misgivings parents may have. The grim finality of eighteen short years of childhood now ended descends heavily on Mom and Dad as they drive away from the college campus, their minds swarming with unanswerable questions; Did I teach enough? Love enough? Affirm enough? Did we pray enough? Do our children have the tools they need to succeed? Will they keep the Faith?

To be certain, the Faith of our children will be sorely tested in the academic setting by militant atheist professors who will openly mock the faith of their students and by the culture of resident life and fellow classmates for whom precisely no spiritual formation was offered. In my years in college ministry I have frequently been appalled at how speedily things can go terribly awry in a student's life before he or she even comes to realize the damage being done. Sexual promiscuity and the ubiquitous presence of drugs and alcohol on campus sweep many unwitting victims along year after year.

Must these life-lessons come at so terrific a cost? Are our young ones fated to collect such spiritual and psychological scars in their college years? The answer to these questions must surely be a resounding "No!" but what provisions might be made for safeguarding the souls of our young adults even as they leave the protective shelter of our family homes? May I recommend the following to your consideration;

Setting expectations in college selection is essential. We must not set our college students up for failure by placing them in a setting where no Orthodox parish exists nearby, where transportation arrangements are fraught, where the academic load is all-consuming, or where no introduction to the nearest parish priest had been made. If the unspoken message is only "study hard, have fun, be careful... and try to go Church every now and again" then the resulting spiritual calamity is a foregone and inevitable conclusion.

Further, the Orthodox Christian Fellowship campus ministry is a highly-effective vehicle designed to create Orthodox community on campus for the young ones of our parishes from coast-to-coast. OCF offers a variety of tools, kits, events, and ministry opportunities to support the spiritual development of college students when they most stand in need of it, when the training wheels have been removed and when consequences of decisions - for good or ill - become very real.

Finally, serious-minded Orthodox parents must commit to the spiritual development of their young ones long before campus move-in days arrive. I cannot begin to catalog the challenges faced by Orthodox college students whose knowledge of their faith is so sparse as to deny them even the vocabulary to articulate coherent questions about the Faith and how to live it out in the gritty reality of dorm and university life. But, with over 200 OCF chapters on college campuses (including the ASU Chapter which meets every Wednesday at 8:00pm in the Christian Center on 10th and Mill) there is a very good chance your child can benefit from this all-important ministry.

The nation stands in grave need of the gifts, talents, and insights our younger generations can and must provide. Far less seduced by the vapid emptiness of materialism, far more relational than organizational, and far more motivated and empowered by works of charity and community, our young adults must be given the spiritual resources to maximize their contributions and to share the Light of Christ in a world enslaved to darkness. May we, beloved, as the Holy Trinity family of God and community of the Faith, devote ourselves to their success in the year ahead!

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Desert Springs August 2017
Stewardship 2017
By Sandy Meris

Educate. Participate. Elevate.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you.
John 20:21

Stewardship Continues To Grow!

As summer begins to wrap up, Holy Trinity’s Stewardship continues to grow. This is exciting and welcome news!

CURRENT STEWARDSHIP NUMBERS (as of July 24th):

Total Stewardship Pledged: $371,957.00
Total Number of Stewardship Families: 323

The budgeted goal for Stewardship for 2017 was $360,000, so thankfully we have surpassed that goal.

It just goes to show how generous our Holy Trinity families are. When the Church is in need – our families give, and give with loving hearts! It also shows that when we work together to set a goal, we reach that goal. If we continue to work together, we can accomplish great things for our Church. Let’s keep this momentum going!

But there may be some who have yet to fill out that 2017 Stewardship Pledge Card – but that’s okay because it is NEVER too late to become a Steward. Join your fellow Holy Trinity parishioners and become a Steward today. Grab a Stewardship Card from the Narthex, fill it out and place in the collection tray on Sundays. Or go to the Church website (www.holytrinityphx.org) and fill it out online.

Questions about your Stewardship? Can’t remember if you’ve filled out a card for 2017? Call the Church Office at 602-264-7863.

And please remember that even while you may be away on summer vacation, the Church still needs to pay those bills and the summer electric bills are very high. Please consider mailing in those Stewardship checks before you leave for your trip.

Let’s keep that Stewardship needle moving in the upward direction! Thank you to all of our generous Holy Trinity Stewards!

Online giving is now available. Simply go to the Cathedral’s website at www.holytrinityphx.org, click on the Stewardship 2017 button on the right, and fill out your Stewardship Pledge Card. Then, if you so choose, you can automate your payments by selecting Parish Pay. In a few easy steps you can become a Steward and keep current on your contributions.

+REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL+

Desert Springs August 2017
Message from the Parish Council
By Connie Contes, President

Please join me in congratulating the two newest members of our Parish Council: Joe Goard and Socrates Papadopoulos who have graciously accepted the appointment to serve/work on the PC for the remainder of this year and to seek election to the PC for a new three-year term beginning next January. They will take the oath of office at the beginning of the monthly PC meeting on August 10th, the Feast Day of St. Lawrence.

Your PC has been dealing with a variety of issues this summer. Many of our children enjoyed a week with fellow campers from other Orthodox churches at All Saints Camp. But this event realized a financial shortfall because not enough campers attended. Yet, the amount of the shortfall was less than the deposit that would have been forfeited if the camp was cancelled. So our children made life-long memories at camp, and the PC has taken responsibility for raising the funds to cover this shortfall from pro-rated amounts from the involved churches. Your PC is committed to making sure that ASC camp shows no loss next year.

Your PC is continuing with efforts to refresh the Speros Community Center with new paint, repaired flooring, and improved lighting. We are revising our rental contract to include security, cleaning and liability insurance costs. But this effort takes money. We are in need of donations to complete this project so that we can effectively begin generating a stream of revenue from this facility.

The Church Office experienced computer hardware problems with old equipment. With no down time in the office, we managed to upgrade the computer system in the office at minimal expense so that all four computers are now state-of-the-art with i7 processors.

Our Cathedral offers nearly 20 ministries. Representatives will be attending the annual calendar meeting on Monday, August 7 at 5:30pm in the Education Building kitchen.

Many blessings as we celebrate the Feast Day of the Falling Asleep of the Most Holy Theotokos, and begin the Ecclesiastical New Year, and get ready for our annual Greek Festival on October 13, 14 and 15.

Deacon John Thrasher
Father Deacon John Thrasher returns to the Holy Trinity Cathedral altar on Sunday, September 10th, after a summer in New York. Welcome back, Deacon John!

Holy Trinity Academy
By Juli Pritsos

Contact Juli at julipritsos@holytrinityacademyphx.org for more information. HTA is enrolling now for preschool and kindergarten for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year. Call now for a tour at 602-248-3881.

“Like” us on Facebook!
Music Ministry “Notes”
By Terri Alexon, Choir Director

*Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. Psalm 66:1*

Have you heard the new and beautiful sounds emanating from the Chanter’s stand lately? At the helm is Protopsaltis George Duvall, along with the newly formed Holy Trinity Byzantine Choir! On July 2nd the Byzantine Choir chanted the entire Liturgy, which was the chanting group’s debut and the culmination of chanting classes diligently taught by George. In consultation with Fr. Apostolos and with an official blessing from His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, the chanting class was created last year to pass on the tradition of Byzantine music to the next generation. According to George, there are few cantors in the Phoenix area and they are aging! George further points out, “As public schools are de-emphasizing music and the arts, the Church, who has forever fostered all the arts, should intervene,” he said.

George brings to the classroom a depth and breadth of education and experience—vocal theory, classical organ as well as modern languages, translation and linguistics at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania. Also, George attended Holy Cross School of Theology from 1975 to 1978, studying Byzantine chant. Subsequently, George became a cantor at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox parish in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania before moving to the Boston area where he was cantor for 10 years at Dormition Greek Orthodox Church in Somerville, Massachusetts. It was during this tenure George produced a number of choral works based on Byzantine hymns, including a “Liturgy of the Faithful” that our Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir has been singing. In the late 1990s, George moved to Phoenix where he became involved in the music ministry at the Cathedral.

Besides learning the eight modes, the beginner’s class lessons focus on overall structure of chant system and Byzantine musical notation. “Learning the music theory of the eight modes was the most challenging part of the class, but the PowerPoint slides and lectures given by Mr. George really helped us understand the theory,” says 15-year-old Joshua Pardhe, who is one of the dedicated students attending the fledgling chanting class.

Other than the obvious fact that the candidate should have a decent singing voice, the only prerequisites, George tells us, “are a desire to learn something others would call completely exotic, and a passion to praise the Lord in song.” The chanting class, however, is not for spectators. Students who take the course are expected to chant, attend the services and serve as Readers at the Analogion.

Classes have adjourned for the summer, but the “field work” segment of the class continues where students attend services and put theory into practice. In September, bi-monthly classes will resume on Saturday mornings in the church office conference room. If you are interested in joining this important music ministry, candidates should first contact Fr. Apostolos Hill at 602-421-2984.

To check out the developing classroom lessons and materials, visit the nascent, yet-to-be-named website link at: [http://htccorg.000webhostapp.com/index.html](http://htccorg.000webhostapp.com/index.html).
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

By Alex Anagnopoulos

Thank you to June Hostesses Sheila Asala and Kristen Vasilarakos

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2017

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: _________________________________________________________

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 2017, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

June’s gathering included a Game Night after the meeting and dinner.

St. Katherine faceted glass icon in the south wing of the Narthex.
Register Today! Classes begin Wednesday, September 13th, 5-7pm
Find the registration form on page 9. Students must be 3 and potty-trained.

2017-2018 Greek School Calendar
Greek School Classes Wednesday 5-7pm
Cultural Greek School every 3rd Wednesday 6-7pm

2017

Wednesday, September 13  1st day of Greek School
Wednesday, September 20
Wednesday, September 27  Culture School/Greek Flag/ Map of Greece
Wednesday, October 4
Wednesday, October 11  N O  S C H O O L (G R E E K  F E S T I V A L)
Wednesday, October 18  Culture School/ O X I day (October 28)
Wednesday, October 25
Wednesday, November 1
Wednesday, November 8
Wednesday, November 15  Cultural School/ Koulourakia (fundraiser)
Wednesday, November 22  N O  S C H O O L (T H A N K S G I V I N G)
Wednesday, November 29
Wednesday, December 6
Wednesday, December 13
Wednesday, December 20  N O  S C H O O L (C H R I S T M A S)
Wednesday, December 28  N O  S C H O O L (C H R I S T M A S)

Special Dates:
November 5-12  Presale Koulourakia (fundraiser)
November 19  Delivery of Koulourakia by the Greek School
December 24  Greek School Christmas Performance after Divine Liturgy
February 10  Apokries Celebration (Dinner/Dance)
March 25  Independence Day Celebration and Lenten Luncheon

2018

Wednesday, January 3  N O  S C H O O L (W I N T E R  B R E A K)
Wednesday, January 10
Wednesday, January 17
Wednesday, January 24
Wednesday, January 31
Wednesday, February 7
Wednesday, February 14
Wednesday, February 21
Wednesday, February 28
Wednesday, March 7
Wednesday, March 14
Wednesday, March 21
Wednesday, March 28
Wednesday, April 4  N O  S C H O O L (G O O D  W E D N E S D A Y)
Wednesday, April 11
Wednesday, April 18
Wednesday, April 25
Wednesday, May 2
Wednesday, May 8  Greek Proficiency Exam

Great Vespers of Pentecost  Saturday, June 3, 2017
HOLY TRINITY GREEK LANGUAGE & CULTURE SCHOOL
REGISTRATION FORM

Student’s First and Last Name:_______________________________________________
Student’s First and Last Name in Greek:_______________________________________

Allergies: _________________________________________________________________

Student’s age:_______ Date of Birth: ___________ Name Day: ___________ Student’s grade in school for 2017-2018 school year: ___________

Student’s First and Last Name:_______________________________________________
Student’s First and Last Name in Greek:_______________________________________

Allergies: _________________________________________________________________

Student’s age:_______ Date of Birth: ___________ Name Day: ___________ Student’s grade in school for 2017-2018 school year: ___________

Parent’s Names:____________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________

Parent’s Home Phone: __________________Parent’s Cell Phone:__________________
Parent’s E-mail Address:____________________________________________________

EMERGENCY CONTACT (If parents not available)
Name:____________________________________________________________________
Relationship:___________________________ Home/Cell#:________________________

MEDIA RELEASE
_____I hereby authorize Holy Trinity Greek School to photograph or videotape my child/children throughout the school year and during pro-
gram functions. I understand that such photos and recordings may be used for public relations and to promote Holy Trinity Greek School
through email, the website, Facebook, flyers, Church publications, and similar.
_____I do not want my child/children photographed or videotaped.

Parent/Guardian Signature____________________________________________Date________________

Payment Information:
$375 for first child. Tuition includes a $40 non-refundable book fee and $ 25 cultural program. Note: There is a 20% discount for the 2nd child
and 10% more for the 3rd child. Cultural Program: $50 per year/ per child, $75 per year/ family non-refundable or family discount

Make checks payable to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, please write “Greek School” in Memo section

Non-sufficient funds will be charged a $25.00 fee per check.

Please complete and sign this Form and Fax, Email, Mail or Drop off at Church Office
Fax Number: (602) 230-9099 Attn. Greek School Registration Email: eirinie@gmail.com Subject: Greek School Registration
Mailing Address: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Attn: Greek School Program

Please mark payment plan: _____In Full _____Per Semester
Amount Paid:___________________________ Date Paid:________________________
Form of Payment:_____Check _____Cash Check Number:_____________________

Culture Program only _____________
Form of Payment:_____Check _____Cash Check Number:_____________________

Form of Payment:_____Check _____Cash Check Number:_____________________

Desert Springs August 2017
Koinonia, a New Ministry Under YAL
By Dan Valenzuela

Greetings! Holy Trinity is now offering a bi-weekly young-adult fellowship called Koinonia, an Orthodox book club sponsored by the St. Nectarios Bookstore, and is part of the Young Adult League (YAL). Our goal is to choose a different book to read each month according to the Saints we commemorate. We will meet every other Friday evening following the Paraklesis services to discuss the chosen book and enjoy light refreshments and time together. The first meeting will be August 4, 2017. Locations of the meetings may vary. Come and join us—we hope to see you!

For more information or to let us know you’ll be joining in, email Daniel Valenzuela at danvalenzuela15@gmail.com or text Sophia Miller-Martinez at (574) 326-6362.

First book to start off the club:
Mount Athos: The Highest Place on Earth by Nikolaos Mesogaia

Rain In The Desert
Recordings of Father’s homilies from Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

From the link:
“Fr. Apostolos Hill, Dean of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Phoenix, AZ, delivers a timely message in a humorous and straightforward preaching style as he draws from his various life adventures to underscore the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to save and to heal broken humanity. Sprinkled liberally throughout with passages from Holy Scripture, Fr. Apostolos’ homilies challenge the spiritual ethos of postmodernity that seeks to limit the transforming impact of the life in Christ and convince us that “being a good person” is good enough.”

Link to recordings of Father’s sermons: http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain
Sermons can also be found on the Cathedral website at www.holytrinityphx.org.

Altar Service
Interested in learning more about serving on the altar?

Contact Chris Francis
battersbox7@yahoo.com,
David Haag
davidmhaag@yahoo.com
or
Deacon John Thrasher
thrasheraz@cox.net
Greetings from Holy Trinity Sunday School!

We hope everyone is having a wonderful, relaxing summer with family and friends. Your Sunday School teachers are very excited to begin the new year with new faces in our classrooms. Because we hold two grade levels in each classroom, it allows for a different mix of children in each class, each year. What a blessing that is to allow our students to get to know children one year older and one year younger than themselves. This brings fresh discussions, ideas, and questions about our Orthodox faith and our Lord, Jesus Christ!

Our Sunday School curriculum originates from the Archdiocese and is embellished by our teachers with their own flair and gifts that are grade level appropriate. Last year our preschool/kindergarten class, led by Ms. Pamela Maydanis, taught her class to sing Christ is Risen! It was beautiful to hear those young voices sing so loud and clear. Each Sunday, they learned a new word that focused on our faith, in both Greek and English.

Mrs. Cindy Kyprianou uses both the 1st and 2nd grade curriculum in her class. Her students use their ability to read and write in their activities. They learn about the icons that correspond with the many feast days that we celebrate during the year.

Diakonissa Mary Thrasher and Mr. Evan Alexon have brought a new element to helping the 3rd and 4th graders learn about God’s love with science experiments! Their students last year learned about Christ’s Ascension as they released white balloons outside.

Our 5th and 6th grade class, led by Mr. John Schneider and Mr. Elias Staikos, was always full of discussion and instruction about Orthodoxy. That class was full on average and always engaged, as well as was the 7th and 8th grade class led by Mrs. Kay Ehrick. Her students were full of lively discussion and questions. Mrs. Ehrick has a wonderful way of bringing our faith to the world our kids live in.

Our Youth Forum is made up of grades 9-12, taught by Mr. Evan Tsagaris. Youth Forum will be held down in the Speros Community Center in the OPA room! This year we have an exciting opportunity for the upper level (Juniors and Seniors) high schoolers! We are very excited for the Youth Forum Narthex Ministry. They will become the 5th team to join the other teams already in place. This means they will be in the Narthex every 5th Sunday. The students will learn the responsibilities and duties of the Narthex ministry. They will rotate so that everyone has the opportunity to be a part of this very important ministry at Holy Trinity. When the kids are not serving in the Narthex, they will have the opportunity to participate in the choir loft!

Last year we were blessed with wonderful speeches at our parish level Oratorical Festival! Katerina Kostouros and Peter Fraenkel represented the Junior Division and Niki Kyprianou (5th year in a row!!!) and Joshua Pardhe represented the Senior Division. Peter Fraenkel went on to represent Holy Trinity at the District level. Niki Kyprianou and Joshua Pardhe not only went to the District level as participants
for the Senior Division, they both went on to the Regional level and participated in the Oratorical at St. Nicholas Ranch in May. We are so, so proud of all of our Holy Trinity kiddos that participated!

This was the 1st year that all the students from 7th–12th grade wrote an essay on an Oratorical topic of their choice. The essays were submitted to Father Apostolos. Congratulations to ALL the students who took the time to stop, reflect and write about their faith.

This year we will be starting on our Oratorical topics earlier in the year for all Sunday school students. The cliché, “Stop and smell the roses” is so appropriate and true. It’s important to not only stop and smell the roses but stop and think Who created those roses. The Oratorical topics created by the Archdiocese encourage the youth to stop and think about our faith and put into words how they feel, using the Bible as their primary source.

So, with our new year about to begin on September 10th, we look forward to seeing both familiar faces and new faces. We look forward to new activities, new Oratorical topics, new discussions, and new faces in the Narthex! Sunday School will be hosting Coffee Hour the month of August. Stop by and meet your children’s teacher(s). We will be there to serve you coffee, answer any questions you may have regarding your children’s class, and provide registration forms for Sunday School. We are so excited to get started! See you soon!

Fr. A’s Visual Lesson #1

Pentecost Sunday
June 4, 2017

What are YOU filling your soul (glass) with?
August is a month of both beginnings and endings. This is the last month of the Ecclesiastical Year. The Orthodox believe that only through a continual renewal and a continual contemplation of the life of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord can we begin to glimpse the Mystery that is Christ. So, even though we come to the ‘end’ of following the journey of Christ from His birth to His glorification, we also ‘begin’ the cycle anew in September knowing that He is never-ending, always present, and that as humans we have much to try to understand to follow His teachings. And so, the end/beginning of the Liturgical cycle is noted, yet often unnoticed by Christians. Our purpose in this life is to try to truly come to know Christ in our hearts and minds, and as this is a constant effort for us, so the life-cycle of our Church is a constant journey, too.

August Holy Days:

**August 6:** Holy Transfiguration – As Christ was approaching His time of the Passion, He took His three most intimate disciples to the top of Mount Tabor, where He was transfigured and revealed as the Light of the Holy Trinity. The voice of God once more stated that “This is my beloved Son,” and admonished His disciples (and us through them) to “Hear Ye Him.” It is important to note that this revelation and Transfiguration came only after the effort was made to scale the heights of the Mount. So must we, too, make a personal effort to endure this life’s struggles yet persevere to reach the Goal of being with Christ and in Christ forevermore.

**August 15:** Dormition of the Theotokos – From the liturgical point of view, this is the most important of the feast days dedicated to the Holy Virgin. It is preceded by the two-week Lent of the Theotokos. Only in the Vespers and Matins is her death given reference; the Gospel and hymns of the Liturgy draw from the other feast days of her life. Through her death, the hymns state “the source of life is laid in the tomb, and her tomb becomes a ladder to Heaven.” In Mary, human nature reached its Goal.

**August 29:** Beheading of John the Baptist – This feast does not celebrate so much the man who baptized Jesus and preached repentance as it does he who championed the moral law and was killed because that law was hated.

Have a very blessed month! Come visit and reflect on what you must personally do to follow Christ!

If St. Nectarios Books and Beyond can assist in any way, please contact us at: [www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org](http://www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org) or patsy@stnectariosphx.org

Patsy Harris – (480) 239-5270

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**Fr. A’s Visual Lesson #2**

**Sunday, July 31, 2017**

When you attend Divine Liturgy, are you *absorbing* the service—or just floating on the surface?
Epistle Readers

To all youth and young adults: we continue our rotation of readers of the Epistle each Sunday Liturgy! Please contact Fr. Apostolos if you would like to get involved. Even if you might be uncomfortable reading, Father and others have offered to help you prepare. This is a beautiful ministry and way to participate in the life of the Church, so please consider taking part!

Light From Jerusalem

Holy Light from the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Brought to Holy Trinity in June and transferred from candle to candle.

Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners and their guests

2017-2018 Desert Diamonds Schedule

September 30, 2017, Saturday
St. Katherine Festival 10:30am-1:30pm
2716 N. Dobson Rd. Chandler, AZ 85224
Van pick up at Holy Trinity to St. Katherine 10:30am
Van return from St. Katherine to Holy Trinity 1:30pm

October 18, 2017, Wednesday, 10:00am
Uptown Farmers Market
North Phoenix Baptist Church:
5757 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85012
SE Corner of Bethany Home/Central in Phoenix

November 16, 2017, Thursday, 10:30am
Picnic in the park 10:30am – Park TBD

November 28, 2017, Tuesday, 10:00am
Christmas Trees at Scottsdale Mall
View the Decorated Christmas trees
7014 E. Camelback Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Meet in the food court at 10:00am

December 21, 2017, Thursday, 10:30am
HT Christmas Party
At Holy Trinity Speros Community Center
Potluck and Gift exchange

January __________, 10:30am
Lunch at the Orchard at Lucy’s
7100 N. 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020

February 14, 2018, Wednesday, 9:30am
Light rail ride and lunch
Meet at Light Rail station at Central and Camelback
Get off Light Rail and eat lunch

March 8, 2018, Thursday
Picnic in the park – Park TBD

April 19, 2018, Thursday, 11:00am
Lunch and games at Spaghetti Factory
Spaghetti Factory address: 1418 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Meet at Spaghetti Factory at 11:00am

May 17, 2018, Thursday, 10:30am
Potluck and games at Holy Trinity
At Holy Trinity Speros Community Center

Contact Nickolette Tavlarides at 602-725-8653 or Sheila Asala at 623-680-8676 for more information or to R.S.V.P.
Tell Us Something Good

Congratulations to Ruth and Tony Hotis on their 60th Wedding Anniversary! August 31, 2017

(L to r) Bessie Hotis, Louis Poulos, Ruth Hotis, Jim Thomas, Tony Hotis, Georgia Poulos, and Stacy Hotis

Our Church Family

40 Day Blessing

“One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.”
Psalm 27:4

6/18/2017
Isaiah J. Walker, son of _______________
___________________

Chrismation

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
Galatians 3:27

7/2/2017
Mercy Pena-Alevizos

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

6/20/2017
George Kokalis
May his memory be eternal.

7/13/2017
Peter G. Palmer
May his memory be eternal.

7/28/2017
Serafim Michalis
May his memory be eternal.

Lost & Found

There are a lot of items in the Lost & Found! Do you recognize any of these? Contact the Church Office for more information.

Congratulations to Ruth and Tony Hotis on their 60th Wedding Anniversary! August 31, 2017

(L to r) Bessie Hotis, Louis Poulos, Ruth Hotis, Jim Thomas, Tony Hotis, Georgia Poulos, and Stacy Hotis

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People often ask us, the Triad Chairs of the Original Phoenix Greek Festival, when preparation for the Festival begins and we answer, “the day after the most recent Festival ended.” We’re always thinking of and planning for the best ways to present a premier event for the benefit of our Holy Trinity Community.

We held our first Leader Meeting on Tuesday, July 25th. Thank you to all who attended!

We presented our goals for this year and we received terrific feedback.

One item that we implemented immediately was addressing our volunteer needs. We get frequent requests from our generous Parishioners asking, “How can we help?”

Starting Monday, July 31st, and every Monday through October 9th, we will send out a weekly update by email. Look for “Festival 2017 Hot List” in the subject line. Note that the emails will be sent through the Parish’s office Listserve email account and will show Admin Assist as the sender.

Thank you in advance!

Your 2017 Chairs,
Angelo, Kristen and Nick

Dolmathes Production
July 26-27, 2017
Gary and Althea Conrad and Nick Kantaros top the finished dolmathes with stock and butter before the pans were packed away. The full crew made 3,888 dolmathes for the Festival!

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Dates subject to change.
OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

By Cindy Kyprianou, President

OPA, Orthodox Parent's Association, supports and advises in areas of social, cultural and religious development of our youth. We plan great age appropriate activities for our kids at our Church such as games, discussions, retreats, mission trips and more.

The Barna Group recently concluded that 60 percent of young American Christians (across all traditions) fall away from their church during and after their teenage years. Our goal this year is to directly connect our kids to Jesus through every part of the youth ministry. We cannot simply rely on a program to magically organize our kids into saints; we must first love Christ ourselves as teachers, parents and youth workers. We've added Family Wellness Ministry for our parents to help us strengthen our faith in Him, which will run quarterly.

We'd like to help our teenage high schoolers understand how God is using their struggles to accomplish good purposes in their lives. We're adding a Senior Forum Q & A every first Wednesday of the month.

Below are OPA's mini ministries for all ages:
Little Lambs (newborn to pre-K)
Hope & Joy (K to 5th grades)
Jr. GOYA (6th to 8th grades)
Sr. GOYA (9th to 12th grades)
Sr. Forum Q & A (9th to 12th grades)
Family Wellness Ministry (All Parents)
Dance (K to 12th grades and beyond)

We, as members of Christ's body, are not here to create a new generation of so called "active" GOYANs. We instead would like to unite our youth with Christ. We look forward to a Christ-centered Ecclesiastical Year.

In order to receive the OPA updated weekly emails regarding what, where and when something is taking place, please make sure to submit your email address to Cjecomom@gmail.com or cwkyprianou@hotmail.com

"FAITH can move MOUNTAINS" Matthew 17:20

With love in Christ,

Little Lambs
Sunday, June 25, 2017 visit in the Small Hall of the Speros Community Center.
**Project Mexico**  
By Evan Tsagaris

“We had an incredible time building a home for a family in need outside Tijuana, Mexico. We would like to offer tremendous thanks to anyone who supported us in this effort, financially and with prayer; without you, we would not have been able to accomplish this labor of love!”

For pictures from our time building and at the orphanage, please visit the link here:  
https://www.flickr.com/photos/147582280@N04/albums/72157686526668105

**All Saints Camp**  
By Evan Tsagaris

“Another year of camp is in the books! With campers from all over Arizona, California, Nevada, and Oregon, we had an amazing week of prayer, fellowship, Olympics, dodgeball, crafts... you name it! Thank you to everyone who attended. To everyone whom we missed this year: see you in 2018!”

To see pictures from this and last year, see our Flickr account:  
https://www.flickr.com/photos/142850662@N05/albums/with/72157666543901734

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**Do you get OPA emails?**

OPA communicates primarily through email via our e-newsletter. To stay informed of all of the youth, parent, and family happenings at Holy Trinity, make sure you are receiving these emailed newsletters. It’s easy, just email your information to Cjecomom@gmail.com or cwkyri@hotmai.com and we’ll get you added to the list.

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**New OPA Board Ready To Take Office**

Congratulations to our new OPA Executive Board who will take over this summer. They are a great group of dedicated parents who will bring fresh ideas and new energy to OPA.

- President – Cindy Kyprianou
- Vice President – Donna Manelis
- Treasurer – Stephanie Papadopoulos
- Recording Secretary – Denise Dye
- Corresponding Secretary – Caroline Economopoulos

While we welcome this new board, we say farewell and thank you to our outgoing board members. We are grateful to you for your years of service to our youth.

- Outgoing President – Sandy Meris
- Outgoing Vice President – Kathy Clarke
- Outgoing Treasurer – Sandy Annos
Koulourakia Production
July 18-19, 2017

The crews made 6,816 cookies and packed them in bags. They are currently stored in the freezer until the Festival. The baking crews rock!

Father Apostolos stopped by to give the cookies a “taste test.” He declared them delicious! (l to r) Fanny Kechajias, Lea Linaris, Rebecca Barabatis, and Argyro Vasquez

Mom Diana acts surprised when her 16-year-old daughter Elena wins a bottle of wine in the raffle and Dorothy Veremis offers to take it off her hands. Want to be in the daily raffle? Volunteer!

Packaged in bags of 12.
The Wednesday production crew

Your Desert Springs Subscription

Enjoy color copies of Holy Trinity Cathedral’s Desert Springs delivered to you!

$3 per issue

There are 11 issues for 2017 (June and July is one combined issue)

_____ $15 for 5 remaining issues

Name: ___________________________________________________

Street Address: ___________________________________________________________________

City, ST, Zip: _____________________________________________________________________

Contact Phone: ____________________________

Return this form to the Church Office or contact Kristen at 602-332-8809 or kvasilarakos@cox.net for more information.

Office use: Payment received on (date) ___ / ___ / ___

Desert Springs August 2017
We have lost two Brothers this summer. George Kokalis and Peter Palmer.

They will me missed dearly and may their memory be eternal.

Twin 9pm Vigil Services for Sts. Paraskevi and Panteleimon
July 25 and July 26, 2017

"My spirit seeks Thee early in the night watches, for Thy commandments are a light upon the earth."

We celebrated the feasts of Sts. Paraskevi of Rome and Panteleimon the Great Martyr on Tuesday and Wednesday evening (respectively) with the Vigil service (Vespers, Matins, & Divine Liturgy) at 9:00pm in the St. George Chapel at Holy Trinity!
Congratulatory and Happy Ads!

In each issue, Desert Springs will offer the opportunity for our community to share good news with others! Ads will be a standard 1/8” of a page (horizontal).

This is the place to recognize your family, friends and fellow parishioners for anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, get wells, awards, special accomplishments, good deeds, above-and-beyond volunteering—anything that is positive, endearing and thoughtful.

Cost is $20 per ad for one issue. Photos are acceptable.

Sample Size
Fill out the form and include an optional photo and full payment (cash or check) and drop in the boxes in the Narthex and Church Office or mail to Kristen Vasilarakos c/o Holy Trinity Cathedral, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, 85016. Checks payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral. Or contact Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net for more information.

Ads will be designed by the Desert Springs staff. Submitter will be contacted prior to publishing if editing of the content of the wording is needed.

Congratulatory and Happy Ads for the Desert Springs monthly publication:

Wording: ______________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

I understand the staff will design the ad at their discretion and will contact me if content changes are needed. _____ (initial)

I need the included photo returned to me. □ Yes □ No _____ (initial)

I am including $20 by cash or check (checks payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral). _____ (initial)

I wish to remain anonymous. □ Yes □ No _____ (initial)

Submitter’s Name: ____________________________________________

Submitter’s Contact Phone: ________________ Contact Email: ________________________________
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