

Desert Springs

May 2019
Volume 4 Issue 5



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016
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Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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8:00am Orthros
9:30am Divine Liturgy

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Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Dina Anagnopoulos—Treasurer
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Socrates Papadopoulos,
Adam Venetis

Holy Trinity Cathedral Website
www.holytrinityphx.org — NEW!

Metropolis of San Francisco Website
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Archdiocese Website
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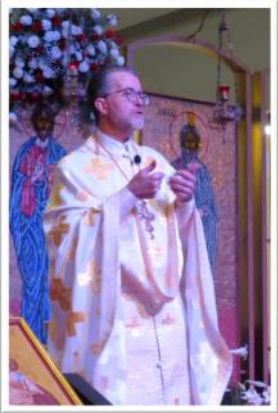
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YAL 30-49 — Nick Papas: npapas@yahoo.com
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Message from Father Apostolos

"I Doubt It!"



The Sunday after Great and Holy Pascha is, oddly enough, set aside to consider the role that doubt plays in our faith. This abrupt change from the highs of joyously proclaiming "Christ is Risen!" to observing the morose figure of St. Thomas openly calling into question the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is stark.

And yet, the icon which depicts this encounter between St. Thomas and the Risen Christ is not referred to as "The Doubting of Thomas," but as "The **Touching** of Thomas."

As we remember from the Gospel accounts, Thomas was not with his brother Disciples when Jesus first appeared to them. And when they tried to relate to him what they had seen, Thomas defiantly replied; "Unless *I* place *my hand* in the mark of the nails, and place *my hand* in his side, I will not believe!" (John 20:25) For him, this was too important a matter to be grasped second-hand.

What role does doubt play in our faith in Jesus Christ? Even the very question may sound odd. How can doubt and faith co-exist in the same human heart? Are we not told that "true faith" dispels all doubt? If only it were that easy!

Oftentimes, people share with me their own struggles with doubt, particularly young people. But rather than scold them or dissuade them from facing those doubts I always reply "That is great news!"

For doubt can be the catalyst for growing into a more mature and deeply-rooted faith! Unchallenged "faith" is akin to an unused muscle. It is there and functions well enough when not under pressure. But just as muscles only grow under the pressure of weight training, so too our faith can only grow when challenged.

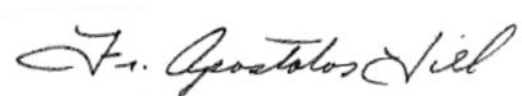
Believing in Jesus Christ in the same way we may believe in Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny is not enough. To "believe" means to "trust in, rely upon, be obedient to, and to follow." And just like St. Thomas, this level of true faith can only be experienced first-hand. Each of us, must place *our hands* in the mark of the nails and place *our hands* in Jesus' side!

Yiayia and Papou's faith, or Mom and Dad's faith is great for them; but it is not imputed to us as righteousness. Each of us must touch Christ as St. Thomas did, struggling with our own doubts, grappling with our sometimes meager faith, and ultimately crying out to God like St. Thomas; "*Lord I believe! Help my unbelief!*"

God can do much more with honest doubt than with disinterested "faith." To struggle with doubts means that we are awake and that we are taking seriously our own journey of faith in Jesus Christ. There will be times in our lives when our faith lags and when our doubt seems insurmountable.

In those moments, may we show the same honest courage as did St. Thomas in encountering the Risen Christ and in touching Him with our own hands!

Christ is Risen!





Sacrifice. Joy. Promise.

A Message on Stewardship

By Kristen Bruskas
Stewardship Committee Member

Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen!

Having just finished our journey through Great Lent and celebrating the Lord's Resurrection, we are reminded of the tremendous sacrifice of Jesus dying on the cross so that we could be saved from our sins. That is the ultimate sacrifice, and not one that we should take for granted. If anything, it should be an inspiration to us that God's love for us was so deep and profound, that he suffered a torturous death nailed to the Cross so that we might live. That is not just a sacrifice, it is unselfish, it is an act of courage, and a demonstration of great faith. While we are not physically placing ourselves on the cross, we are called to sacrifice in our lives as Christians. During Lent we experience this with stricter fasting. Throughout the year we sacrifice by giving our time to God through prayer, attending church services, and stepping outside our comfort zone to help others. Another way we sacrifice is through our stewardship. We are called to give our "first fruits" to the Lord. Yes, we all have bills – mortgage, utilities, insurance, groceries and many more. But stewardship is not a "bill". Stewardship is an act of love and, yes, sacrifice. Do you give God your first fruits or just the leftovers?

When you think about it, we are here because of God. All that we have has been given to us by God. As a true sacrificial act, we should give to God first, and with abundance. Our giving should extend beyond just monetary support and into volunteerism. Our Cathedral family is large and the saying "many hands make for light work" is quite true, but it seems that those hands at our parish are getting fewer and fewer. What can you do to help your Church? Can you sing in the choir, teach Sunday School, sew altar cloths, feed the poor, bake for the Festival, or even help with small repair projects on our campus? This is also an integral part of your stewardship. Yes, this will require a sacrifice of your time, but what great joy and fulfillment you will feel knowing that you gave – not just from your pockets – but from yourself for the Glory of God and for the edification of our parish.

Holy Trinity Cathedral has been here since 1931. There is a lot of history in our community, and there has been a lot of progress. But there is no promise for tomorrow. That is up to us to chart the course for our future. What will it be? A parish that is comfortable with its past and present and thinks the future will take care of itself? I'm afraid not! The promise of tomorrow rests with us and our commitment as faithful Greek Orthodox Christians and stewards to see that five, ten, twenty and even 100 years from now, Holy Trinity Cathedral will continue to be a vibrant, God-loving community, emulating the Gospel through our actions, with a thriving a house of stewards, and a parish that is shining brightly as a jewel in the desert.

Does your stewardship pledge this year really reflect your first-fruits? Perhaps you can sacrifice just a bit more. If you are not part of our steward family yet, we invite you to prayerfully pledge your support to the good and God-pleasing work of YOUR parish. Thank you!

Alithos Anesti! Truly He is Risen!

Support Project Mexico

Connie Contes will be accepting donations for this fundraiser or contact the Church Office.

IC XC NI KA 8th Annual Arizona Walk for Missions

Saturday, May 4th 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Kiwanis Park, Tempe AZ




Support mission work in Mexico and around the world. Proceeds from our Walk are shared equally with OCMC and Project Mexico. The work done by these two Orthodox agencies is literally life saving. **Please help us!**

Join us or make a donation!



Father's Children Talk

April 7, 2019

"The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life."
-Plato

H T A
HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY
Accelerated learning in a nurturing environment
www.HTAphx.org

Now Enrolling

We believe that a positive and successful learning experience during the early years of education forms a solid foundation for future achievement. For most children, preschool and kindergarten are the first steps into the world beyond the family; therefore, we strive to create a nurturing and supportive environment for the optimal growth of our students.

Call Today
Scholarships Available
602.248.3881

Coffee Hour

Thank you to [Holy Trinity Academy](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hour in March.

The May Coffee Hours will be sponsored by [OPA](#).



“Youngsters” Over 70½ Get a Tax Break

IRA owners over 70½ can make TAX FREE charitable contributions to Holy Trinity Cathedral.

You can contribute up to \$100,000 of your required minimum distribution (RMD), but the funds must be transferred directly from your IRA to Holy Trinity.

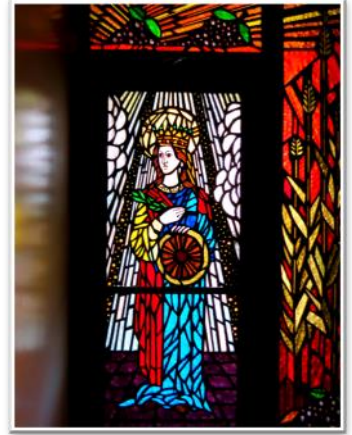
Simply ask the institution holding your IRA to issue a check from your IRA to the Church.

You can do this easier by having a checking account attached to your IRA. With a checking account on your IRA, you simply write checks to the Church during the year for your donations.

Please call the Church Office with any questions at 602-264-7863.

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Mary Louise Theodoropoulos, President



St. Katherine faceted glass icon in the south wing of the Narthex.

“FRIENDS OF THE POOR”

An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!

Thank you to April's Hostesses
Julie Karoutas and Edna Nicely



Circle of Angels

Please let Philoptochos' **Circle of Angels** know of any parishioners who are ill, recovering, scheduled for surgery, recently moved to assisted living, or are homebound.

Contact Mary Poulakidas at 602-349-6466 or Lois Sakkas at 602-717-9097.



JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2019

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 2019, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Philoptochos Scholarship Application

Additional forms are available in the Narthex, through the Church Office, and on the website

2019 Scholarship Application

The Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos Society will be offering two, one-thousand dollar (\$1000) scholarships to Holy Trinity students attending college in the fall of 2019. Listed below are the eligibility requirements:

1. Student and/or family must be a Steward of Holy Trinity Cathedral
2. High school students must have graduated in the spring of 2019 and attending college in the fall of 2019
3. College students may also apply as continuing students or in graduate programs in the fall of 2019
4. Applicants must submit:
 - A copy of 2018-2019 transcripts
 - College acceptance letter
 - A resume including school, church & community activities

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2019

If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, please contact a member of the Scholarship Committee or Philoptochos.

Georgana Frieh 480-945-0800 Mary Louise Theodoropoulos 602-943-5080

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Phone: _____

High School or College presently attending:

College(s) Accepted to: _____

GPA: _____

Annual Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale

(right) Just *SOME* of the many volunteers who prepped, baked, and packaged the koulourakia and tsourekia. Thank you to Joanna Mackos for *again* leading the teams!



Baking Photos by Sheila Asala



(middle right) Another successful sale! Holy Trinity Cathedral's St. Katherine Chapter truly appreciates our faithful community who supports our bake sales each year. Funds earned after expenses go towards the Chapter's many charitable obligations.



(lower right) The Chapter tested *pre-ordering* for this year's Easter sale. Many took us up on this—look how many bags were filled and ready to go for easy pick up! And it was easy, too. Simply complete a short form, add your payment, and show up to collect your goodies already neatly packaged. No fuss!



Look for order forms for upcoming sales next Christmas and next Easter.



(left) One of the 22 goodie bags distributed to our homebound seniors. Each bag includes some of the fresh-baked treats.

Myrrhbearers

Myrrhbearers are young girls ages 10 to 14 who seek the Lord and are service-oriented in supporting the Church and charitable works. The goal is to provide hands-on experience related to church and to perpetuate the teachings of the Orthodox Faith, opportunities to participate in the liturgical life of the church by means of devotional services, sacraments, church calendar year and Divine Liturgy. For additional information contact: Stacey Beaty at staceybeaty@live.com or Kathy Tropea at tropea5@q.com.



Photo by Caroline Economopoulos

2019 Myrrhbearers



Includes Photos by Caroline Economopoulos



AHEPA Chapter 219

Mother's Day Brunch Sunday, May 12, 2019

Immediately Following Divine Liturgy

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
James A. Speros Community Center**

1973 E. Maryland Avenue ~ Phoenix

Adult: \$30 (18+)
Student: \$20 (13-17)
Child: \$10 (8 - 12)
7 & Under Free

Contact

Pete Marudas
602.284.1638

George Venetis
602.516.0599

Limited Seating Event!

Purchase Your Tickets Today!

Red Eggs

April 20, 2019



Palm Sunday Luncheon

April 21, 2019



Magaritsa Meal

April 28, 2019, 2:30 AM



Tell Us Something Good

The St. Katherine Chapter of Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos wishes to thank **Joanna Mackos** for leading the Baking Teams for this year's Easter Bake Sale, with special acknowledgement to Chris Brusalis, Gary Conrad, and Andy Stamatis

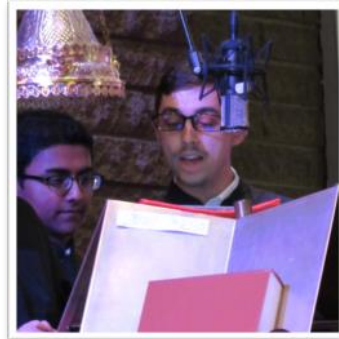


The St. Katherine Chapter of Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos wishes to thank Joann Karros and Kathy Karros Clarke for hosting the **Red Egg Dyeing** for the **17th year!**



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!



Not pictured: Ryan Choukalas

Includes photos by Presvytera Denise

Akathist Hymn

Friday, April 12, 2019



Sunday School

Lazarus Saturday
Pancake Breakfast
Palm Cross Making



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Looking for a new and rewarding opportunity to be involved in our parish? Here is your chance! Sunday School is looking for new teachers and assistant teachers for next year. We would love for you to start THIS YEAR to learn about the curriculum, the teachers, and most importantly, the children. Sunday School has openings for an assistant for preschool/Kindergarten, 1st/2nd grade, and 7th/8th grade. We will be needing a 7th/8th grade teacher next year, so the sooner the better to begin mentoring with Ms. Kay Ehrick. She has been such a blessing to our 7th/8th graders and our Sunday School ministry. We will miss her, and the kids will miss her!

If you have interest in this wonderful ministry to work with our youth and/or questions, please contact Kalli Schneider @ 602-568-3139 or Kay Ehrick @ 602-628-8962. We would love to hear from you!!!

Sunday School

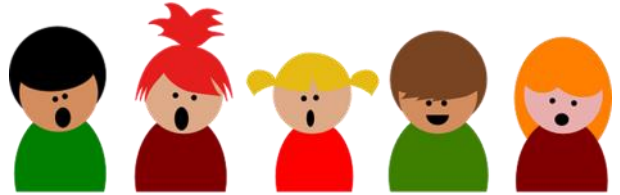
The Sunday School program is losing Co-Director and long-time teacher Kay Ehrick, who has chosen to retire after 17 years.

Here is a letter from Kay:

Hello Holy Trinity Families,

My name is Kay Ehrick and I have had some of the BEST Sundays in the past 17 years here at Holy Trinity! I

started volunteering for the Sunday School Ministry in 2002. During that time, I have met some of the best Sunday School volunteers that anyone can meet or be a part of in their lives. For me, that was a huge part of my experience as a Sunday School teacher.



Why did I get involved? Very simple, really. My oldest daughter was about 3 1/2 years old and we were back in Wisconsin where I grew up. While at church, Zoe's Nouna wanted to take her up for Communion. As they were walking up, my child decided to scream bloody murder while I am looking at them in awe. I saw other kids the same age walking up so reverently and my first thought and/or feeling was embarrassment. Needless to say, after the screaming and me going up to the line to take her hand so we could both walk her up together, Zoe took her Holy Communion. When the service ended and we walked up for our anditheron, the priest said to me..."You don't bring her to church enough." I walked away a little angry and embarrassed, but Father E was absolutely right! So, when I came home from that trip I met Juli Pritsos and Kalli Schneider and was HOOKED into Sunday School and Holy Trinity! ;) Thank you, Ladies!

I started teaching Sunday School with the 5th and 6th grades, eventually graduating to the 7th and 8th grade. I have had a blast the entire time! I cannot even explain the feeling I have when I see so many of these kids that now are in their mid-late 20s. I think "WOW!" they are here going to church and are involved in our church. That, to me, is the BEST feeling! Yes! I can tell you that the generation has changed but many of the classroom discussions have stayed the same. There definitely is a lot more media to go around these kids and with so much more of that today, we need God's help to place his arms around these kids even tighter.

A quote that I have used throughout the years in my class has been, "We are all Fisherman amongst men". I hope that all my students past and present can remember that discussion. For me, I believe this so strongly as I think of my experience as a Sunday School teacher. To be able to toss out God's net into the classroom and try to catch as many "Fish" as I can. I am happy and blessed to say that I have caught quite a few!

The BEST conversations with all of your kids has been to read the Gospel that was written thousands of years ago and still relate the message into today's world, your children's world. So many GREAT stories and all in ONE BOOK! If I have learned anything, it has been learning it through new eyes, here at Holy Trinity on Sundays with these kids. Holy Trinity has GREAT kids and I can't wait to watch them grow and be the Orthodox Christians that they are meant to be.

Nothing could have worked out better for me than to volunteer for the Sunday school ministry and relearn God's word alongside these awesome kids! I mean all the kids, past, present and future! Please think and pray about volunteering for this ministry. You will be amazed at how much more you can do and learn!

Epitaphio Decorating

Holy Friday Morning



Photos by Caroline Economopoulos

Palm Sunday

April 21, 2019



Altar Service

Holy Friday



Altar Service

Interested in learning more about serving on the altar?

Contact:

Chris Francis at battersbox7@yahoo.com,
David Haag at davidmhaag@yahoo.com or
Deacon John Thrasher at thrasheraz@cox.net



Un-Nailing Service

Holy Friday, April 26, 2019



Photos by Presvytera Denise

Proti-Anastasi Service

Holy Saturday, April 27, 2019



Includes photos by Presvytera Denise and Marie Spanos

Father Apostolos invited the children up onto the Solea to see the Service up close.



Greek School

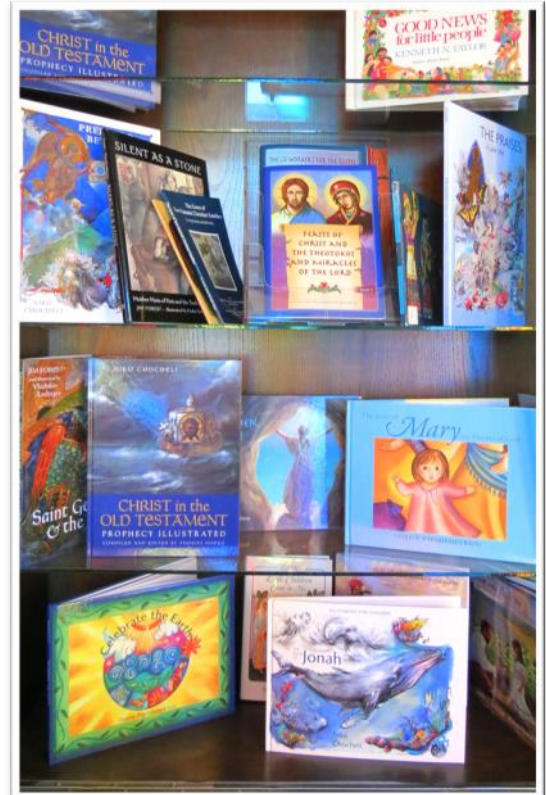


Pre-Kindergarten Teacher Gabriella Papatzimas writes: “9 months and 30 classes later, my PreKinders have officially graduated their first Greek School class and I couldn’t be more proud! Here’s to already prepping next years curriculum and looking forward to September!”



Narthex Library

Pictured below is one of **four** display cases of books that are available to check out for *free* in the Narthex. Just follow the posted directions and enjoy. Happy reading!



Attention Organizations:

Please check the Organization Contacts listings on page 2 of this issue and confirm that the information is correct. Email is the default contact type, but can be changed to texting or telephoning if preferred.

Email any changes to both Diana at AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org and Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net.

It is the organization’s responsibility to inform Diana and Kristen of any updates to their listing.

Thank you!



Our Generous Parishioners

Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage
PANTRY PARTNERS



Holy Trinity Academy

Holy Trinity Academy.
Building today for a better tomorrow.



Saturday, May 18, 6:30-10:00pm
Campus of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85016

RSVP by Monday, May 13, 2019
Tickets may be purchased in person or online at htaphx.org
\$50 Donation Per Person



Please join us as we raise a glass to another superb year of Orthodox education and to celebrate the opportunity to build our future! You will enjoy an evening of micro-brew and wine selections paired with delicious foods and desserts and musical entertainment, along with an opportunity to be a lucky recipient of wonderful raffle items.

This year's proceeds will benefit HTA's growing preschool and kindergarten programs with a portion of the proceeds to benefit One Spirit+One Vision building fund ministry for Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.



Raffle Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100. To purchase event and raffle tickets, or to become a sponsor of this event, please contact the school office at 602-248-3881 or e-mail julipritsos@holytrinityacademyphx.org.

Music Ministry

by Terri Alexon, Director



To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Psalm 30:12



During Holy Week this year, both the Byzantine and Cathedral Choirs ventured out to different areas of the church to better facilitate worship by the faithful!

On Holy Thursday, the Byzantine Choir led by Protopsaltis George, came up to the loft to chant and read so the lighting could be kept low when the commemoration of our Lord's burial took place.

Then the Cathedral Choir ventured down from the loft to join the Byzantine Choir on the solea to sing the Lamentations of Holy Friday evening. Translated by Protopsaltis George, the three stasis were sung in traditional Byzantine mode ALL in English for the first time ever in the Cathedral! Our humble thanks goes out to Fr. Apostolos for his direction and inspiration of the music ministry.



If you love to sing and wish to deepen your worship in a profound and rewarding way, please consider joining the music ministry! Cathedral Choir rehearsals are held most Wednesday evenings at 7:00-8:30 pm. Byzantine chant classes are held most Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings. Contact Terri Alexon by phone at 480-233-2416 or by email, htphxmusicdirector@gmail.com.

Christ is Risen, Truly He is Risen!



St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Patsy Harris

Christ Is Risen! Christos Anesti!

May is a very busy month for many of us – we have Mothers’ Day, graduations, young adults moving on to college, and Baptisms and weddings! St. Nectarios Books and Beyond has many gift ideas, books, candles, and other items to help with these activities! We look forward to assisting you in your selections.



May Holy Days:

April 29th-May 4th—Week of Renewal or Bright Week: during this week the doors of the Iconostasion remain open at all times, symbolizing the free access to the Holiest of Holies that Jesus Christ, as our Great High Priest, opened for us with His blood. There is NO fasting and there are NO prostrations this week, as we stand with our Risen Christ in celebration.

May 3rd—Theotokos of the Life-giving Font: the title refers to a spring near Constantinople in which many healings took place, attributed to the Theotokos. Although the church in her honor was destroyed in 1821 by the Turks, the fountain remained, and in 1833 a new Church was built.

May 5th—Thomas Sunday: where our Resurrected Christ appears again to His Apostles and Thomas calls Him “My Lord and My God,” removing any lingering doubts that Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior IS God!

May 12th—Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women: the women set out early in the morning, bearing spices with which to anoint the body of Jesus. They don’t know how they will be able to roll away the great stone before His tomb, but they go anyway. We also must trust in our belief and “set out” to seek Our Lord, no matter the unknown obstacles we may encounter. The women do not go empty-handed but carry spices for their Lord. So, too, can we carry an offering of our belief, and of our prayers.

This is also Mothers’ Day. What greater gift for our Mother than to be in Church worshipping with her?

May 19th—Sunday of the Paralytic: although this miracle occurred in the early days of Christ’s ministry, we remember it here because it reminds us that only Christ, Who raised *Himself* from the dead, has the power and authority to heal humanity.

May 21st—SS. Constantine & Helen, Equal to the Apostles

May 22nd—Mid-Pentecost: we are already halfway to Holy Pentecost, when we begin kneeling once more.

May 26th—Sunday of the Samaritan Woman: at first glance this meeting of Jesus with the woman who drew Him water from the well seems to have no connection to the Resurrection. Yet, this Sunday is the Sunday after Mid-Pentecost, or the “middle of the feast,” and in another Gospel reading it is in the “middle of the feast” that Jesus preaches about the Living Water, referring to the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit. Here, Christ, through His Resurrection, is leading us to “Jacob’s well” of the Holy spirit descending upon the Apostles (and each of us) on Pentecost.

THANK YOU for all your support of the Bookstore! Should anyone be in need and find that I’m not at the Bookstore, please call me so we can arrange something to accommodate both of us. Have a very blessed month! If St. Nectarios Books and Beyond can assist in any way, please contact us at: www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org or patsy@stnectariosphx.org Patsy Harris – (480) 239-5270

Truly He is Risen! Alithos Anesti!

Holy Friday

April 26, 2019



Click here to view Holy Friday Lamentation photos.

[More Photos](#)

Our Church Family

Chrismations

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Galatians 3:27



Holy Saturday

04/27/2019

Joy Larson, sponsor Terri Alexon
and

Garrett Widner, sponsor Terry Harper
God's Blessings be upon them.



Follow Holy Trinity Cathedral on Facebook

The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of many of our services.



“YAL2” Event

New to our community?

Already a member, but looking to meet more people?

New to our community?

Already a member, but looking to meet more people?

Join the Holy Trinity social ministry for single 30-49 year old Orthodox adults. This month's gathering will be bowling and dinner at Bowlero Christown on Saturday, May 11th at 6pm.

Bowlero Christown is located at 1919 W. Bethany Home Road in Phoenix. We will meet in the front lobby near the cashier. For directions,

please visit their website at <https://www.bowlero.com/location/bowlero-christown>

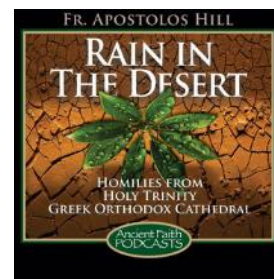
For questions or additional details text Nick Papas at [313-657-0176](tel:313-657-0176) or email at npapas@yahoo.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Rain In The Desert

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.



Grant Writer Needed

We might have an opportunity for a grant for Cathedral improvements. If you have grant writing experience we would enjoy discussing this with you. Contact Diana in the Church office at 602-264-7863 or Paul Katsenes at pkatsenes@cox.net or cell 602-421-7200.

Holy Saturday Matins of Pascha and Paschal Liturgy

April 27 & 28, 2019



Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners
and their guests



Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

April showers bring May flowers, and May brings the summer break for our Ministry. We will celebrate by having a picnic at McCormick Stillman Railroad Park, 7301 E Indian Bend Road, in Scottsdale on Thursday, May 30th at 11:30am. Let us celebrate Memorial Day, honoring the memory of all those who have served our country.

Please plan on bringing picnic foods, such as potato salad, garden salad, pasta salad, baked beans, potato chips, chicken salad, fresh fruit, or desert. I will be bringing hot dogs and rolls.

I will get there early to secure a Ramada close to the entrance and by the rest rooms, hopefully the one we have used in the past. Please let us know if you are coming and what you will be bringing.

Also, on Sunday, May 19th at 4:00pm, the Scottsdale Philharmonic will be having a free concert. The concert will be held at the Scottsdale Bible Church, 7601 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale at 4:00pm. Please try to attend and enjoy some beautiful music.

Warm regards,
Julie Karoutas

Contact: email Julie at juliekaroutas@gmail.com or call or text her cell at 623-313-8720 or Judith LaMond at 703-819-995

Narthex Ministry

We are looking to expand our Narthex Ministry on Sundays.

Currently, between 5-8 people are in the various spots in the Narthex on any given Sunday. We want to expand the number of monthly volunteers to ***12*** each Sunday.

All twelve will not be in the Narthex—we are hoping to place parishioners in various spots in the Sanctuary and outside. **Do you have law enforcement or security experience? Let us know if you can help!**

Interested in joining one of the teams?

Also, if you are a **medical professional** and willing to step forward in an emergency, we ask that you let a Narthex Ministry team member know that you are in attendance and where you are sitting.

Text Kristen Vasilarakos at 602-332-8809 or email at kvasilarakos@cox.net for more information.

Historical Museum

Altar door from Virginia Avenue. Door is displayed in the Historical Museum. Located in the Speros Center.



What YOU Can Do to Make Visitors Feel Welcome

Have you noticed new faces in our Narthex, Sanctuary, and Speros Center? We've had many visitors stop by lately. Some are Orthodox and visiting from other Parishes, some are returning to Orthodoxy after a long time away, and some are coming to check out Orthodoxy for the very first time. No matter how they come to us, let's make sure we say Hello!

“Welcome! I don't believe we've met yet. My name is (your name)” is a great start. Offer to walk with them down to Coffee Hour. Ask them to sit with you. A personal connection goes far!

Videos of Services

There are weekly video tapings of the Matins, Liturgy and special services posted by Daniel and Joshua Pardhe on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) and through the links on the [website](#).

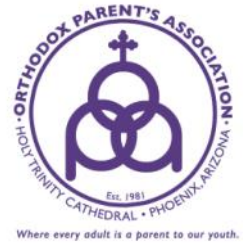


Subscribe and like us today

<https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityphx.org/>; <https://youtu.be/h-6GLW3udVo>

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Cindy Kyprianou, President



Christos Anesti!

On April 12th, our youth gathered in the Speros Center to learn the most important sacrament in our faith, the Holy Eucharist, from Fr. Apostolos. We then all made a beautiful Prospora together and brought to the Altar before attending the final Akathist Hymn of this Lent.



Our Little Lambs joined in on a Easter egg hunt on April 27th, following the Holy Saturday morning Proti Anastasi Service. God bless our little ones! We had a wonderful turnout. (photos on page 27)

In May, our youth will volunteer at the St. Mary's Food Bank to package the emergency food boxes on Saturday, the 11th. Our annual OPA graduation will be on the 19th after Liturgy. We'll celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating 8th graders, high school seniors, college or graduate school in our community.

Please follow our weekly OPA newsletter for details.

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 cwkyprianou@hotmail.com and we'll get you added to the list.

Little Lambs Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 27, 2018



Jr & Sr GOYA Event

Saturday, May 11, 2019

Community Outreach Opportunity
for

JR & SR GOYA

Saturday, May 11, 2019

8:00-10:00am

2831 N. 31st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

Come volunteer at St. Mary's Food Bank
by helping pack emergency food boxes.

Please contact Cindy Kyprianou at:

[480-993-6437](tel:480-993-6437) if interested in participating. Space is limited.



All Saints Camp

All Saints Camp 2019

Hosted again at Whispering Pines in Prescott, Arizona,
All Saints Summer Camp returns June 2-8!
Registration will open soon. Stay tuned for more details.



you are witnesses.

June 2-8, 2019

Registration

Early | \$425
(through 3/17)
Regular | \$450
(through 5/5)
Late | \$475
(through 5/26)

Did You Know?

- All Saints Camp is open to all youth entering third grade through newly high-school graduates
- Registration is paperless! All registration, medical, and payment processes occur through CampDoc.
- Payment plans are available! Only the deposit is needed to secure the price at time of registration.

Registration closes May 26!



info@allsaintscamparizona.org
AllSaintsCampArizona.org

Graduate Luncheon



Graduation Luncheon

Sunday

May 19, 2019

Immediately following Liturgy

Lunch: Pastichio, salad & cake

Cost \$10 per person

ages 5 and under free

All are welcome to come celebrate our

2019 Graduates!



Please consider helping families in need within our Congregation.

Donation of GIFT CARDS:
Fry's, Walmart, Target or Costco would be appreciated.

Gift Cards can be dropped off in the Narthex, or to Cindy Kyprianou.

OPA GRADUATION

CELEBRATION If you or your child is graduating from 8th grade, high school, college or graduate school, please fill out the



2019 graduate recognition form (available in the Narthex and the OPA newsletter) and scan to Caroline Economopoulos at cjecomom@gmail.com to be recognized at the OPA Graduation on Sunday, May 19 immediately following Liturgy.

GRADUATION FORM [click HERE](#)

AHEPA Chapter 219



AHEPA Chapter 219

Historical AHEPA

Nick Maydanis Photographer



May Meeting Information

Our Next Meeting is:

Thursday, May 16, 2019
6:30 PM

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
James A Speros Community Center

Interested in Becoming a Member?
Contact Pete Marudas
602-284-1638

Your 2019 Desert Springs Subscription

Desert Springs Subscription

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

\$3 per issue

There are 11 issues (June and July is one combined issue) for \$33

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

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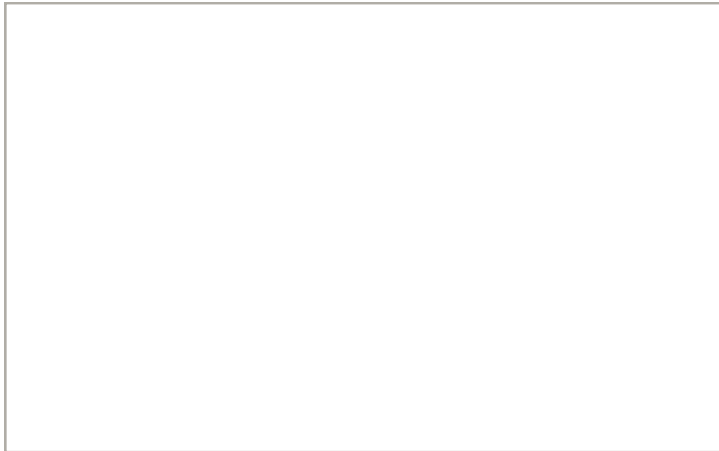
Contact Phone: _____

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) ___ / ___ / ___

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: _____