

Desert Springs

September 2019
Volume 4 Issue 8



PRESENTED TO
His Eminence Archbishop Epiphanius of America
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIRST ARCHPASTORAL VISIT TO ARIZONA

With Respect and Love in Christ,

Holy Trinity Cathedral - Phoenix
Saint Katherine - Chandler
Assumption - Scottsdale
Saint Hermobon - Peoria
Saint Demetrius - Tucson
Holy Cross - Flagstaff
Saint George - Prescott

AUGUST 6, 2019

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
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Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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

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The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Dina Anagnopoulos—Treasurer
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Socrates Papadopoulos,
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Holy Trinity Cathedral Website
www.holytrinityphx.org — NEW!

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

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Message from Father Apostolos

Building a Bridge



For those of us who were raised in an Orthodox parish or whose conversions to the Orthodox faith occurred years ago, understanding the challenges confronting would-be seekers and converts can be difficult. For a moment, let's place ourselves in the shoes of first-time visitors to Holy Trinity through the eyes of a young mother. We'll call her Emilia.

Emilia and her husband Mike have been unhappy at the various churches they've attended. She believes that there must be more to knowing God, to worship and receiving spiritual food than they've experienced. It seems illogical that a 2,000 year history can be set aside and disregarded for the sake of the latest worship fad. But where do they begin in their search for something more?

Emilia begins researching parish options online but many are just slight variations on the same theme of entertainment-driven services while others are crassly political in their appeal. "There must be more than this," she tells Mike. Finally, she recalls having attended the wedding of an Orthodox college friend and begins looking for the nearest Orthodox parish.

But what does 'orthodox' mean? And why are they organized as Greek, Russian, Antiochian, Serbian, etc? Must would-be members actually *be* Greek, Russian, etc, or can anyone join? Like most first-time visitors, Emilia and Mike visit our website many times while deciding if they will take the next step and come to a service, looking at online photos, visiting our Facebook and Youtube pages to fill in some blanks.

"This seems really different but we've tried everything else," Emilia and Mike agree. But many, many questions remain unanswered. "Let's at least try one service," Mike says, "and if we don't like it we can cross 'orthodox' off our list." More questions emerge as they prepare for the first visit. "What do we wear? What is a 'liturgy?' Do they use English in the worship? Will we understand what is going on?"

Sunday morning arrives and Emilia and Mike pull into the parking lot a little before the 9:30 start time, surprised to see only a few cars. Did they get the time wrong? Climbing the stairs to the Cathedral, they are apprehensive, but a smiling man opens the door for them and welcomes them inside the 'lobby' where a large picture of Jesus dominates the wall above them.

There are little beeswax candles that the regulars are taking to light and place in the two little sand boxes. "What does that signify? Should we take one or no?" As Emilia and Mike pause inside the doors to get their bearings, a lady steps up and asks "Are you visiting us for the first time this morning?" Mike is quick to reply "Yes, we thought we would come see what an Orthodox service is like." The lady provides them with a Sunday bulletin and offers some helpful instructions about the worship service.

As Emilia and Mike step in the 'sanctuary,' their eyes take in the surprising size of it. On the other end, a large screen with more pictures of Jesus and Mary and of others they do not recognize stretches across that end of the building. Not wanting to stick out, they take a seat near the back as the service begins. Most of the pews are empty but the regulars continue to file in throughout the service.

Emilia picks up the little black service book in the pew in front of her and tries to follow along. The priest and the choir members are singing the prayers back and forth. There are processions first with the large gold Bible, and later with a large chalice. "What does this

*Fr. Apostolos' Message continued on page 4
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mean?" The readings from the Bible are familiar and Emilia is happy to see young people participating in the worship? "What are the youth ministries like here? Will our kids fit in and be accepted?"

"Wow! The service is taking a while to wrap up." Mike thinks to himself. Still, he and Emilia have been moved by the power and beauty of the worship and by the sermon. "If we were looking for something different, we've certainly found it!" The service now concluded, Mike and Emilia notice that everyone is streaming forward to greet the priest. "Should we go too?" Mike touches Emilia's elbow and they step to the side aisle and walk apprehensively to the front where the priest greets them and place a small piece of bread into their hands.

As Mike and Emilia exit the sanctuary, they ask themselves "What now?" "Is there a fellowship hour? If so, where is it?" They are intrigued about what they have experienced and would like to learn more. "Is there someone we can speak with?"

This description is a fairly typical account of what a first time visitor to an Orthodox liturgy will experience. As longtime members, we can easily fail to appreciate how foreign and mystifying our mode of worship is for our guests. It is telling that only 18% of first time visitors will return for a second service, according to various national surveys. However, I believe that we at Holy Trinity can, with some organizational efforts and by cultivating a love for souls, improve upon those odds.

You will have noticed that we host first time visitors at virtually every Sunday service. Not only out-of-state family members visiting their Phoenix relatives, but our neighbors from across the valley join us on a regular basis. And many of them, as I once did thirty years ago, are searching for something richer, deeper, than they've found heretofore. They hope for stability, community, reverence, a place to belong. A place where they will be accepted and embraced. Good news for them and for us; as Greek Orthodox Christians, we are very good at this!

How can we do better? We have already made great strides with our Narthex Ministry, supported by the Outreach and Evangelism ministry of our Metropolis. But beyond the reach of our formal approach, cultivating a culture of inclusion is essential, a cultivation that is already well underway here at Holy Trinity Cathedral. I have heard repeatedly that we are a friendly and welcoming parish.

And if we believe that the Holy Orthodox Church is truly that "Ark of Salvation" established by God, it is incumbent upon us to pull as many souls as we can into the boat with us. How? Perhaps by inviting our friends to join us for Sunday worship. Or by seeking out guests and visitors, asking them to sit with us in the liturgy. Inviting them to walk with us to coffee hour. Grabbing lunch together afterward.

Perhaps, as God moves our hearts you may wish to join our Narthex and Greeter Ministry or to join the Cathedral Tour group being assembled as part of our annual Parish Festival. Or by attending the Outreach and Evangelism meeting with our Metropolis coordinator set for the morning of Saturday, September 21st. Or simply by joining with me in my weekly prayer as I make the early morning drive to the Cathedral, "Lord, please bring all Your scattered sheep into the fold today!"

Ad the Holy Trinity Cathedral family, we are richly blessed! We are a vibrant family of faith and a place of refuge, precisely the kind of parish home many are hoping to find! Let us work together to overcome whatever hesitation we may have to embrace all those souls God brings to us! If you'd like to learn more, please speak with me or Alexander.



Message from Pastoral Assistant Alexander

An Address to the Parents



Beloved Parents,

I hope the school year has gotten off to a good start for all of you! I'm so excited to get things really rolling for our youth here at Holy Trinity and can't wait to see what growth the year holds. We had about 50 of our youth at our Kick-off on the 17th and can't wait to see them all throughout the year. Having said this, I have some news for you as parents: my arrival at Holy Trinity doesn't lessen your responsibility for your children's life in the Church, I (and we as a Church family) will most likely be asking more from you.

In my different conversations since arriving here I have heard so much about our community's desire to "do something for our youth" or to "keep them in the Church" and I love it! The first step to doing something is having a desire for it. However, we must define what we mean by "keeping them in the Church." Does this mean simply retaining them as "members" of this church throughout their lives so they can baptize their children in it and continue our lineage at the parish? Do we want them to be close to our church so they have an outlet to express their Greek culture? Do we want them to be saved? Do we truly wish our children's eternal salvation?

My role (and Father Apostolos's) here at Holy Trinity is to help guide our community to salvation. It is a weighty sentence that I myself cannot fully comprehend or understand. However, when a parish asks for an assistant (or second priest) what they're saying is this: "We're ready for more spiritual growth." I have seen the great desire for more growth here that would simply be impossible with one pastor and I am so excited to work alongside Fr. Apostolos to facilitate that growth towards salvation with all of you. Having said all this, last week I talked about what I want from our youth (have questions, pray, and make Holy Trinity your home) and these all apply to you too; but now I have a couple pleas for you as parents:

If we want our children to take our faith seriously, we must take it seriously. There is no getting around this. If we do not introduce God into our lives but simply go to Him at Church for at most an hour and a half once a week, we cannot expect our children to feel He is important and if He is not important, there's no reason to go to Church. I ask you two simple and related tasks:

✚ Pray one more time per week with your children than you did last week. If you currently do not pray with them, start! Just once a week for a few minutes. Then try to add in one more morning or night the next week until everyday of the week you pray with your family even for just 2-3 minutes. If you do pray with them, pray *for* them on your own one more time than you do. Let God fully into your life. If you do not know how or what to pray, buy a prayer book or ask Father or me!

✚ Come to church 5 minutes earlier every month until you arrive at the beginning of the Divine Liturgy. It may be difficult with younger ones but try your best, God sees your effort! We do not arrive for sports events or movies or anything we *watch* 20-30 minutes after they begin, so why should we arrive to Divine Liturgy which we are called to *participate* in, late?

I speak all of this out of love and of the aforementioned desire to try to walk along with you into salvation. If you have any questions about what I have written, please come talk to me or email me (aeliades@holytrinityphx.org). If you simply need someone to talk to ever, please come talk to me or Father. We're here for you, to be with you, and to love and pray with you. May God give us the strength to bring our children to Him and to love them and everyone around us as He loves us.

MINISTRY SUNDAY

Hosted by the Stewardship Committee

MINISTRY SUNDAY Sunday, September 8th

Please join us for Ministry Sunday where each of our Holy Trinity ministries will have a table with information and an opportunity to sign up or volunteer.

Also on this day:

- First day of Sunday School
- OPA Back to School Luncheon
- Welcome Alexander and Laura Eliades!!!

NEW YEAR – NEW BEGINNINGS

September marks the start of the new Ecclesiastical year in the Orthodox church. This is the time of year people come back from vacation, kids go back to school, and our regular routines begin again.

This also brings the startup of our church ministries. To kick off the start of the season, the Stewardship Committee is once again organizing Ministry Sunday on Sunday, September 8th. This will coincide with the first day of Sunday School and the OPA Back to School Luncheon. We will also take this opportunity to welcome our new Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades and his wife Laura. What a joyous and busy day this will be at our church!

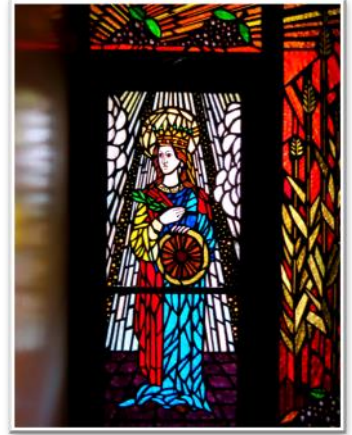
Ministry Sunday will be an opportunity for our parishioners to see how many amazing opportunities we have for involvement and participation. Each ministry will host a table so we encourage you to consider joining a new ministry. Perhaps consider joining the choir, helping at the bookstore, or becoming a “friend of the poor” with the ladies of Philoptochos. So please make sure your kids attend the first day of Sunday School, support our youth by attending the lunch, and join in fellowship by perusing the Ministry Sunday tables.

We are so very truly blessed to have Alexander and Laura join our Holy Trinity family. They have already begun getting to know everyone and Alexander has been busy working with our youth and OPA to grow our youth programs. We welcome them both with open arms!

Ministry Sunday will also be the perfect opportunity to fill out your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Card if you have not already done so. There is no time like the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year to reaffirm your commitment to your church. We look forward to seeing everyone on September 8th!

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!

First meeting of
2019-2020
is Thursday, September 5, 2019

There will be a
Blessing of the Waters
in the Chapel
as Philoptochos begins its new
Ecclesiastical year.

Bless of the Waters
6:30pm

Meeting
7:00pm

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

Reception for the Archbishop Elpidophoros



Thank You To Our Wonderful Parishioners!

It is with sincere gratitude that we thank all of our parishioners for beautifully representing Holy Trinity Cathedral during His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros' visit to Phoenix. We are grateful to those who came out to greet him at the airport and to the multitudes who attended Paraklesis and the reception. As always, we represented ourselves with grace and dignity and welcomed our newly enthroned Archbishop with warmth and respect!



St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Patsy Harris

September is here, and again marks the beginning of a new Ecclesiastical Year!

Again my prayer for all of us is that, as we begin again our Liturgical Journey to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, we take these words to heart: God is real, and loves us unconditionally. He uses our imperfections and human sufferings to make impact on us, or on those around us when He chooses us to be examples of His Grace!



Just a friendly reminder: We are looking to maintain a cool environment for our Bookstore Family, so our door will be closed even when we are open. Please look for the large Bookstore sign near the steps on your way to the Community Center or Sunday School rooms, and also for the smaller “OPEN” signs in our windows! Thank you, and have a blessed new Liturgical Year!

This New Ecclesiastical Year is bringing yet other changes to St. Nectarios Books and Beyond. I will be moving out of the valley, and the Bookstore will now be under the loving care of **Rita Zakher Papaspyrou**, supported by **Terri Alexon**. I know all of you will add your prayers to mine that their Bookstore ministry be as blessed for them as mine has been for me!

September Holy Days:



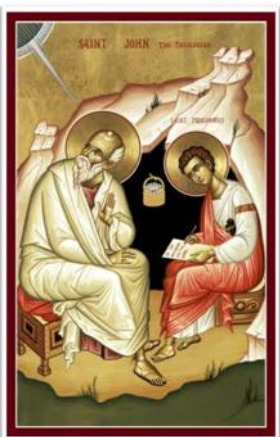
September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos – It is appropriate that the first great feast of the liturgical year brings us into the presence of the Blessed Mother of God, the highest example of human holiness!

empty Cross, rather than a crucifix, because although Christ allowed Himself to be crucified for our sakes He also Resurrected Himself to remind us of His promise of Life Everlasting through Him.

September 14: Exaltation of the Holy Cross – At this second of the great feasts we encounter the Holy Cross, which reminds us that Christ suffered His Passion and was crucified for our salvation because of His love for us. We are reminded to “bear our own Cross [the ones He gives us, our human trials, which are one of the aspects of the Cross of Christ] and follow Him.” Yet the Orthodox Church focuses upon the



September 26: Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian (Evangelist) – St. John authored his Gospel in Ephesus and wrote Revelations while exiled in Patmos. Tradition has it that he died in Ephesus around 104 A.D., at over the age of 100 years. He is also remembered on May 8.



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:

Note: for September, please watch the Sunday Bulletin for our NEW WEBSITE information!

Patsy Harris – “Thank you all for your loving support and many kindnesses to me in the past years!”

Tell Us Something Good

Thank you, Patsy, for your years of dedication to the Bookstore. We wish you love and blessings in your new home in Flagstaff!




Thank you, Andrianna, for always offering a smile and a handshake during "Let us love one another..."!

ASC Golf Tournament

3RD ANNUAL ASC INVITATIONAL
SATURDAY | November 9, 2019
Stonecreek Golf Club



SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!
Fundraiser to benefit Orthodox Youth attending All Saints Camp



1:00 PM SHOT-GUN SCRAMBLE
12:00 pm Check-In
Course located at 4435 E Paradise Village Pkwy S, Phoenix, AZ 85032

\$125 PER GOLFER
(If paid by Oct 31st | \$150 after deadline)
Includes lunch and goodie bags
Mulligan packages and raffle prize tickets will be available at the course
Bring a full foursome or we can add you to one!

AWARD DINNER FOLLOWING TOURNAMENT
6:00pm at Assumption Community Center | 8202 E. Cactus Road, Scottsdale
(Non-golfers encouraged to attend @ \$25/person)

RSVP by OCT 31, 2019
office@assumptionaz.org | 480-991-3009



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Holy Trinity Academy

Building a Love of Learning!

By Juli Pritsos

We're Going Back To School



It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close and the first day of school is right around the corner! This year we have a great deal planned for the Littles! From academics, fine art, music and movement, Greek language skills, Orthodoxy along with lots of play our students are sure to celebrate learning each and every day!

I am blessed to have Yvette Sherman and Nicki Tsioutsiopoulos continue as HTA's preschool teachers. They both have excellent energy, a wealth of ideas, and always a smile. The synergy amongst all of us is another reason to celebrate. Aside from the early education background that we have to make sure that each child meets and exceeds their potential we all have a passion and love for being around these blessed angels. It is a privilege to work beside these two lovely ladies in an environment that allows us to be passionate about what we are doing in shaping these young children's lives. Our entire academic ministry has always been a labor of love to help our Littles develop into wonderful Bigs!



There are a great many preschools and kindergarten programs that parents have to choose from and we are so grateful that our parents have chosen HTA for their precious angels to begin their learning journey. To be trusted with

their most prized possession is an amazing gift and so rewarding to partner with our parents to be a part of that! Just as HTA partners with its parents for their children's success our parents partner with us for ours. We all work together for the greater good of this wonderful and caring ministry. We are excited for the opportunity to share parent information about HTA at our upcoming Greek

Festival, October 11-13, where we will have scheduled Open Houses in conjunction with the Cathedral Church Tours to showcase our one of a kind program. Other HTA events through out the year include:

Family Fun Night – November TBD

Christmas Pageant – December 19

Open House – January 16

Fine Art Expo – May 13

And finally, our pièces de résistance...

A Toast to the Future – May 9



From Left: Charlie DeMoss, his brother Bill DeMoss, and Charlie's son, Chris

Last year we joined hands with another HT ministry, One Spirit+One Vision, overseen by Mr. Charles DeMoss, to raise funds to pay for our Education

Building. It was an honor to present a check of \$5,000 to the OSOV at the next day's Parish Assembly. Over the years we have been blessed with the success of this event to continue the growth and beautification of HTA – it feels great to be in a position to share a platform to help others.

With all of these wonderful things in store for this new school year it's no wonder that I am excited for the first day of school! My school bag is packed, pencils sharpened, I'm ready to make new friends, try new things, and learn so much more than I teach.



For more information please call, 602-248-3881, or email julipritsos@holyltrinityacademyphx.org.

HTA Staff:

Father Apostolos Hill – Principal/Proistamanos

Yvette Sherman – Preschool Teacher

Nicki Tsioutsiopoulos – Preschool Assistant

Sharon Daniolos – Substitute Kindergarten Teacher

Juli Pritsos – Kindergarten Teacher, HTA Director and humble servant

Mark Your Calendars

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHORAL FELLOWSHIP

ONE DAY. ONE HYMN. ONE CHURCH.

September 21, 2019

ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH - SCOTTSDALE, AZ

COME SING WITH US!

- An enjoyable day of choral music fellowship
- Join parishioners from AZ Orthodox churches
- World premiere of "Christ is Born; Glorify Him!", a new Orthodox Christmas hymn
- Video recording to be posted on social media

DETAILS

- Family event for ages 8 - 98!
- 10:00am - 3:00pm
- Lunch included
- Adults \$15
- Students \$10
- Register at occfellowship.org after August 1st

*No choral experience necessary.
If you love to sing, you will love this event!*



<https://www.facebook.com/occfellowship>



Music Ministry

by Terri Alexon, Director

Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts; His name is the Lord; exult before Him!

Psalms 68:4

As we celebrate the new Ecclesiastical year, the Music Ministry is pleased to announce its completion of the [Cathedral loft renovation project](#)!

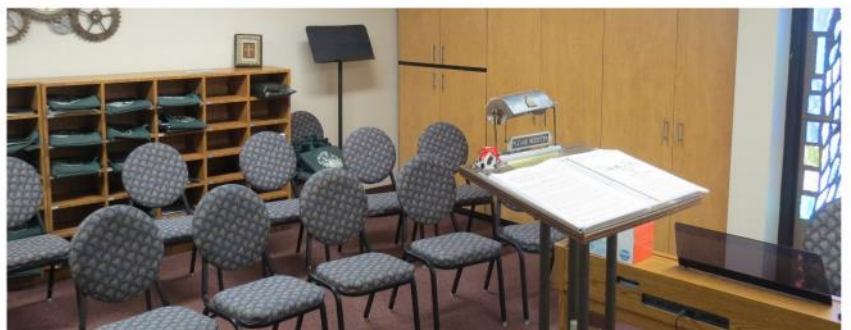
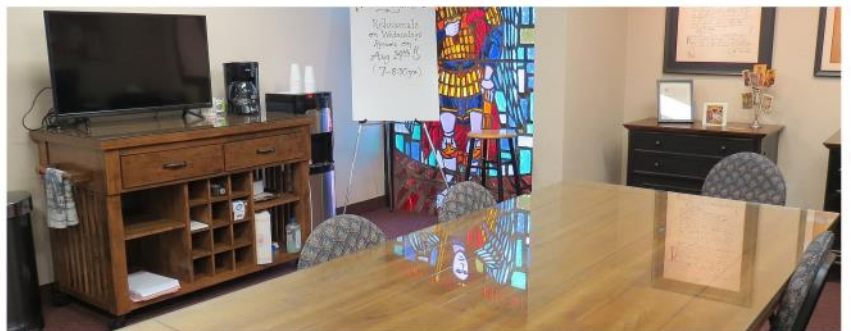
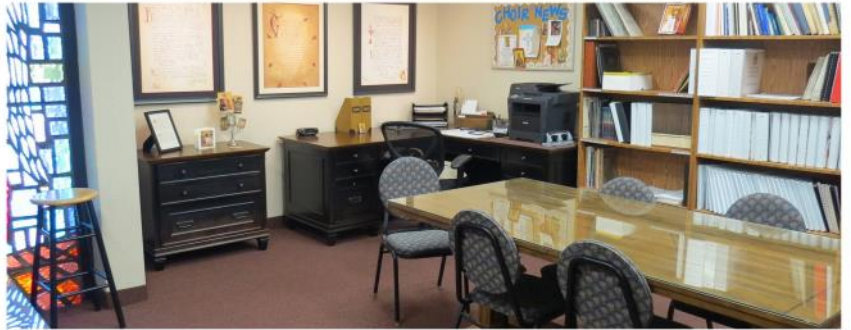
Thanks to an estate donation by Mary and Henry Fraenkel, the Music Ministry purchased for the [library](#) new furniture, carpeting, recessed LED lighting, and custom cabinetry.

Thanks to a donation by the estate of Evan Alexon's mother, the [rehearsal room](#) was finished with wall-to-wall custom cabinetry, LED recessed lighting, new carpeting, and a Rodger's keyboard.

Please join us up in the "Heavens" for an open house to view the new digs on **Sunday, October 6th**, immediately following Divine Liturgy. Coffee and refreshments will be provided by the Cathedral Choir in the Music Ministry Library as well as the Speros Community Center.

In the meantime, **September 15th** marks the beginning of Youth Choir rehearsals! Children age 7 and up are welcome to participate in brief rehearsal in the **Community Center, NOON-12:15pm**. Children are also welcome to join the Cathedral Choir for warm-up rehearsal promptly at 9:00am in the newly remodeled rehearsal room and on most Wednesdays from 7-8:30pm.

Want to be a part of a rewarding music ministry? Please contact Terri by telephone/text at **480-233-2416** or by email, hthpxmusicdirector@gmail.com.



— THE ORIGINAL PHOENIX —

GREEK[®] Festival

59TH ANNUAL



OCTOBER 11-13, 2019

GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING & MORE

FRIDAY, OCT 11
5pm - 10pm

SATURDAY, OCT 12
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY, OCT 13
11am - 8pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix

phoenixgreekfestival.org | htgrkfest@gmail.com |

ADMISSION

\$5.00 - for an entire day of fun

Children under 12 free

Seniors over 60:

FREE Saturday from

11:00am - 3:00pm

**No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)*

PARKING

**Free Parking at
Charles Schwab -
24th St. & Lincoln.
Shuttles every 15 minutes**

**\$5.00 to park in
church parking lot**



EAT . DANCE . SHOP . PLAY

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines
Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market
Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.

Friends of the Festival

August 11, 2019

Dear Holy Trinity Stewards and Friends,

We hope everyone enjoyed a summer filled with fun, love and exciting memories! It is that time of year again for our community to come together for the Annual Greek Festival. October is fast approaching!

We are forever grateful to all the volunteers and donors who step up every day to make each festival a success. Unfortunately, with the rain last year, festival profits were quickly diminished. This year, we are playing catch up and hope to overcome the results of bad weather in 2018. We can each play a role in jumpstarting the festival by considering a donation sooner than later!

Thanks to all of you, **Friends of the Festival** has always had success raising money to offset the costs associated with the operation of our annual Original Phoenix Greek Festival. **With rising food, beverage and operating costs and the inability to continue raising prices to our loyal consumers, we truly need every bit of help we can get!** Your generous donations, no matter the size, allow us to buy in bulk and save money that directly increases the profitability of the Festival. If you can find it in your hearts and finances, we very humbly ask that you consider (1) donating if you haven't previously, (2) increasing your donation over and above what you have so graciously offered in the past and/or (3) spreading the word to local business and friends who would consider donating to a great cause! We had several unrelated, outside individuals donate to Friends of the Festival last year. **Think about the power of the masses—If every one of us stewards at Holy Trinity could find just 3 people to donate \$100, we would raise over \$100,000 to offset costs of the festival!!**

Many of you are familiar with the **Friends of the Festival** Campaign, but we wanted to update you on an initiative we introduced last year. We rolled out a Corporate Sponsorship program to help monetize the 15,000+ people that attend the festival on an annual basis. The valuable foot traffic helped us raise over \$20,000 from local businesses who were willing to support the church and pay for advertising at the festival. We were fortunate to have had support from companies like **Leslie's Pools, Wood Partners, Grand Canyon University, KS StateBank, and Reformed Pilates**. This is a new year, so we start back at \$0.00 and need everyone's help to spread the word! Thanasi and I will lead the charge this year by personally buying our first 2 corporate ad banners for \$1,500 each, totaling \$3,000, on behalf of our companies, LifeManaged and Fundamental Income. We hope you, your close contacts and network may consider following suit and supporting this cause!

Please see the attached flyer for how you can make your pledge/donation and please do not hesitate to call or email us directly at the contact listed below.

Thank you in advance for your generous support. Spread the word—people can be very generous if you simply ask!

Sincerely,



Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos

thanasi@lifemanaged.com

602-931-5043

Friends of the Festival Co-Chair



Alexi Panagiotakopoulos

alexi@fundamentalincome.com

602-481-9274

Friends of the Festival Co-Chair

Friends of the Festival

FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL



We need your help to make the 2019 Greater Phoenix Greek Festival a profitable success. All donations, big and small make a **HUGE** difference!!

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|--------|---------------|
| ▪ Platinum | \$1,000 or more | Silver | \$250 or more |
| ▪ Gold | \$500 or more | Bronze | \$100 or more |

All Friends of the Festival receive recognition in our weekly bulletin and Festival Program. In addition, the Platinum and Gold sponsors also receive special recognition in a banner on display at the festival. **To participate, please follow these three steps:**

1. Make your check payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral with a notation in the memo section for the donation to FOF, and include this completed form.
2. Mail the check payable to Holy Trinity Cathedral, Attn: FOF at 1973 E. Maryland Ave, Phoenix, Arizona 85016.
3. Indicate below how you would like your name listed (donation may also be anonymous);

If you would like to spread the word about available corporate donations/sponsorships, please ask Thanasi or Alexi to email you a pitch deck to share with your contacts. You would be surprised that friends and colleagues who have been long time patrons of the festival would happily donate \$100 if you ask them!

Thank you for your donation. See you at the festival on October 11th, 12th and 13th. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Thanasi Panagiotakopoulos – (602) 931-5043 – thanasi@lifemanaged.com
Alexi Panagiotakopoulos – (602) 481-9274 – alexi@fundamentalincome.com

*Donations must be made by September 31, 2019, for recognition on the banner.

Festival Updates

By Sandy Meris

**OUR FESTIVAL IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!
GET READY AND GET INVOLVED!**

The Festival will be here before we know it and its hard to believe that this will be our 59th annual! Big things to come next year for our big 60th Anniversary!



For now, here is what you can do to help our Festival continue to be the biggest, best Greek Festival this side of the Grand Canyon!

1) Sign up to VOLUNTEER! Beginning September 15th, you can sign up during Coffee Hour to volunteer at a booth. Consider helping in the food lines, kitchen, church tours, or parking lot attendant, just to name a few!

2) Mark Your Calendars! September 21, 28 & October 6th from 8:00am - noon. Set Up! These three Saturdays are dedicated for set up and building of booths. There are plenty of jobs both small and large that need to be done, so there is something for everyone of every skill level. The more volunteers we have on these Saturdays, the fewer workers we need to hire. Remember that....*many hands make light work!*

3) Parking Passes! The Festival Committee has made a change this year....colored parking passes will be distributed to the volunteers. Booth leaders will give their volunteers a different colored parking pass for each day they volunteer. We ask for everyone's cooperation in helping us get the volunteer parking passes under control.

Festival Baking—Dolmathes

August Production



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!

August Readers



Includes photos by Presvytera Denise and Greg Hill

First Day of Sunday School

is Sunday, September 8, 2019

Stop by a Coffee Hour in August to register your child(ren).



Coffee Hour

Thank you to [Sunday School](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hour in August.

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



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



SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

2019-2020

"Teach a child in the ways he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)
++ Classes begin on September 8th, 2019++



Family Last Name: _____

Mother/Guardian: _____ Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Father/Guardian: _____ Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email addresses are needed to solely and effectively communicate with you, Cathedral, Youth & activity news.

Children: (Please check youth activities that you are interested in or are involved with at this time)

Name _____ DOB _____ Grade ____ Allergies _____ Name Day _____

Altar Boy(9+) Myrrh-Bearer(11-14yr) Youth Choir Hope/Joy(Gr.K-5) Jr. Goya(Gr.6-8) Sr. Goya(Gr.9-12)

Name _____ DOB _____ Grade ____ Allergies _____ Name Day _____

Altar Boy(9+) Myrrh-Bearer(11-14yr) Youth Choir Hope/Joy(Gr.K-5) Jr. Goya(Gr.6-8) Sr. Goya(Gr.9-12)

Name _____ DOB _____ Grade ____ Allergies _____ Name Day _____

Altar Boy(9+) Myrrh-Bearer(11-14yr) Youth Choir Hope/Joy(Gr.K-5) Jr. Goya(Gr.6-8) Sr. Goya(Gr.9-12)

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Name _____ DOB _____ Grade ____ Allergies _____ Name Day _____

Altar Boy(9+) Myrrh-Bearer(11-14yr) Youth Choir Hope/Joy(Gr.K-5) Jr. Goya(Gr.6-8) Sr. Goya(Gr.9-12)

Any Medical Conditions that we should be aware of?

No YES _____

Donation to Sunday School Enclosed \$ _____

+Our primary interest is your child's active participation in Sunday School and yours! If you can provide a \$20 donation, per student, it helps defray Sunday School expenses throughout the year. Thank you!

Parent Opportunities To Be Involved! (Parents please check what you are interested in!)

Sunday School Teacher Teacher's Assistant Substitute Teacher

Oratorical Festival Godparent Luncheon Lazarus Saturday

Snack Distribution Dance OPA

Questions? – Contact: Kalli Schneider at kalliopischneider@gmail.com. or at 602.568.3139
Thank you!

Maintenance Corner

Submitted by Ted Fourlis



July & August have been busy months for your maintenance committee. Here is a rundown of projects completed or in process:

The parking lot lights conversion to LED lighting is almost complete. Peter Bilitsis, Jim Contes, and Ted Fourlis have completed further installations of the new housings, and only have 6 more lights to convert. The lighting in the parking lot is very bright and will increase visibility. Special thanks to Mr. Dimitri Zannis for allowing us to borrow his boom truck to access the light housings. Currently, Peter Bilitsis and Ted Fourlis are working on a solution to change the burnt out light fixtures to LED lighting at the ramps and stairs leading up to the Administration & Education Buildings.

You may have noticed the dead grass and excavating around the community center. The major irrigation leak has been resolved. Thank you to John Katsaros and Ted Fourlis for rerouting a main 2" line to feed our valves so that we may begin to rewater the grass around the Speros Community Center.

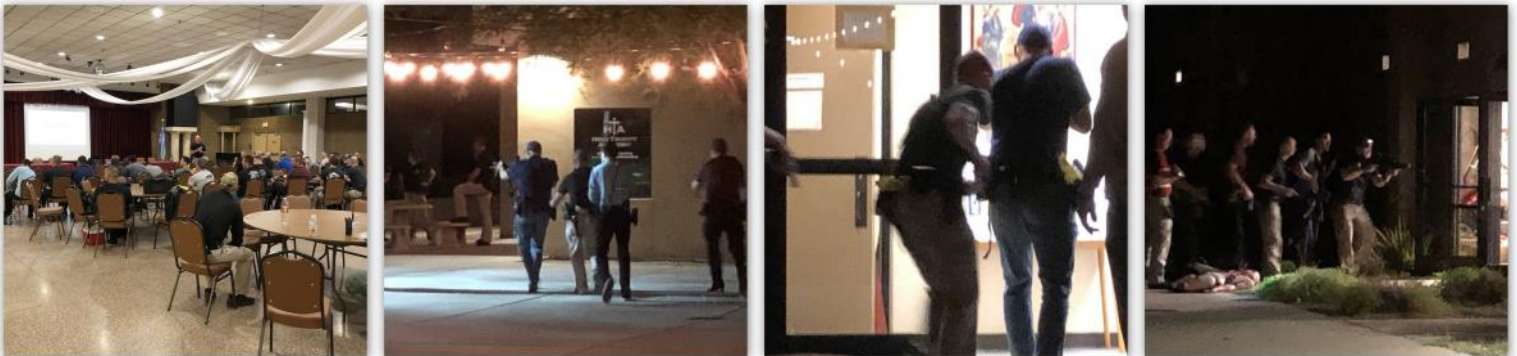
Two of the air conditioners at our Educational Building needed repair. Thank you Adam Venetis and the Valonis Bros for taking care of the issue. The roof leak in the Speros Community Center from the last rains has been repaired. The Valonis Bros replaced the ceiling tiles in the Speros Community Center and Education Building damaged from the leaks. We had a cracked pipe in the water treatment line that works with the Cathedral chiller repaired.

The palm tree in the south grass area next to the back patio has been cut down to assist with Festival setup between the AHEPA bar and the Souvlaki/Salad booth.

Campus Training

On Saturday, August 10, 2019 local Phoenix Police and Fire units met at Holy Trinity Cathedral to conduct Violent Incident training drills. Ted Fourlis and the HTC security team assisted with coordination of the use of our campus for the drills. The police department enacted three shooter scenarios in the Education Building: in the basement, in a pass-through class room, and on the balcony/landing by the Office facing south.

HTC partnered with Phoenix Police and Phoenix Fire in this important and valuable training. Thank you, Ted and the rest of the team, for offering our campus! In addition, we now have more than 40 police officers who are familiar with our location and campus, just down the street from their police precinct.



Save the Date!

Join us for a
GLENDI GALA

NOV
16

COCKTAILS • MUSIC • DINNER • DANCING

SATURDAY



Evening includes...

- 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour / Music
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Dancing

Cocktail Attire Suggested

Ticket Prices:

Until October 13th

- Adults \$50
- Students \$30
- Children 12 & under \$20

After October 13th

- Adults \$60
- Students \$40
- Children 12 & under \$20

Purchase tickets with cash or check.
Contact Sandy at sandymaris@yahoo.com
or (602) 525-0345.

CATERED BY



Thank you for supporting your church community! Funding raised benefits the dance program and OPA! for events throughout the year.

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

1973 E Maryland Ave, Phoenix

Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners
and their guests



Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

I hope that you have been enjoying your summer, it won't be too long before our September event arrives. We will be kicking off our Fall season on Thursday, September 12th at 11:30am at the Holy Trinity Cathedral Community Center. We will begin with a Pot Luck luncheon to be served at 12:00 noon. Our guest speaker and book signing will follow after lunch.

Arrangements have been made to have as guest speaker Magda Demou-Gryparis, author of "The Village, The war and the occupation of Greece through the eyes of a four year-old." The book is a collection of memories from a year of her young life during the German occupation, during which her family had to escape from the city of Athens and find shelter in a mountainous village in central Greece in order to survive.

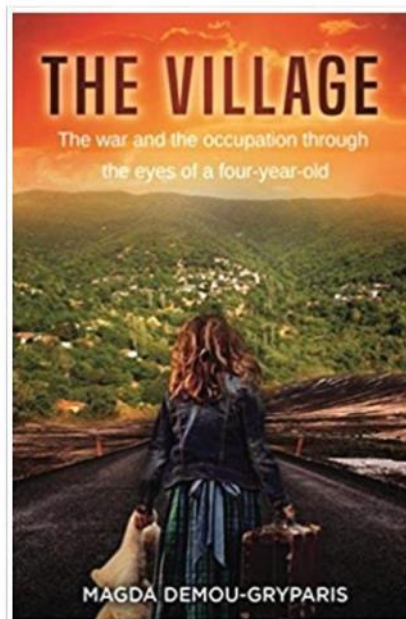
Please bring friends. RSVP with number of friends and what you will be bringing to share for the Pot Luck.

Warm regards,
Julie Karoutas

Contact
Julie Karoutas at
email:
juliekaroutas@gmail.com
cell: 623-313-8720 call
or
Judith Lamond at
cell: 703-819-9957
please text only.

Guest Speaker at Holy Trinity Cathedral!

The Desert Diamonds will host
Magda Demou-Gryparis,
author of The Village, The War and Occupation
Through the Eyes of a Four-Year-Old



on **Thursday, September 12,**
2019 at 11:30am in the
Speros Center.

Join in on the pot-luck!

RSVP to Julie Karoutas
at
623-313-8720
or Judith Lamond
at
703-819-9957

Our Church Family

Chrismation

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

Galatians 3:27

08/25/2019

Leonard Debickero,
Sponsor: Theodore Hantgos
God's Blessings be upon him.



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!



Myrrhbearer Photo Project

We will be looking for Myrrhbearer photos from over the years, with the goal to collect each year and present chronologically in one big photo album.

Look for information soon on where to send your photo! In the meantime, begin thinking where your are!

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!



We're Blogging!

NEW!

Father Apostolos and Pastoral Assistant Alexander have joined the blog-o-sphere!

From the website holytrinityphx.org go to the drop-down Media heading and click on BLOGs.

From there, you'll be able to read posts by Father and Alex. Click share, if you'd like. And look for info coming soon on a free subscription to your inbox.



Follow Holy Trinity Cathedral on Facebook

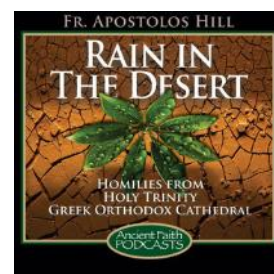
The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of many of our services.



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.



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](https://www.youtube.com) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and through the links on the [website](http://www.holytrinityphx.org).



Subscribe and like us today

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

A Community BABY SHOWER honoring



Pastoral Assistant Alexander & Laura Eliades

Saturday, September 7, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Cathedral Community Center

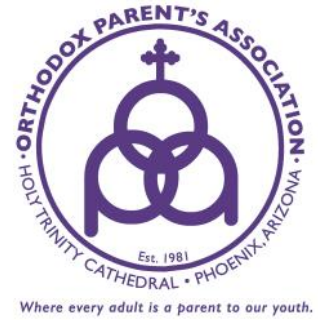
Luncheon provided & hosted by | OPA, Philoptophos & Daughters of Penelope

RSVP to Mary Louise Theodoropoulos | jpmcgurkees@cox.net or (602) 943-5080

Gift Registry | babylist.com

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Dianna Scaccia, Co-President
Paulina Watson, Co-President



It is our pleasure and honor to introduce ourselves as the co-presidents of OPA for 2019-2020! It is a pleasure to support our youth as they develop into healthy, happy, well balanced orthodox Christians and an honor to be a part of their journey.

We will be collaborating with Father Apostolos and Pastoral Assistant Alexander to provide our youth with meaningful experiences, while helping to guide them in our faith.

We are both grateful for this opportunity.

In God's love,
Paulina Watson & Dianna Scaccia

Paulina Watson
602-740-9350
Paulinawatson25@gmail.com

Dianna Scaccia
602-323-4615
discaccia@gmail.com

Meet your new Board!

Co-President	Paulina Watson
Co-President	Dianna Scaccia
Secretary	Donna Manelis
Treasurer	Stephanie Papadopoulos
Wellness Ministry	Lindsay Vardalos & Leah Venetis
Correspondence	Caroline Economopoulos





Registration Link

Dance Practice Schedule

Sunday, September 1 - OFF - LABOR DAY
Wednesday, September 4 - 7:00pm - Practice
Sunday, September 8 - 12:15pm - Practice
Wednesday, September 11 - 7:00pm - Practice
Sunday, September 15 - 12:15pm - Practice
Wednesday, September 18 - 7:00pm - Practice
Sunday, September 22 - 12:15pm - Practice
Wednesday, September 25 - 7:00pm - Practice
Sunday, September 29 - 12:15pm - Practice

Wednesday, October 2 - 7:00pm - Practice
Sunday, October 6 - 12:15pm - Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday, October 9 - 6:00pm - Slab Rehearsal
Friday, October 11 - Sunday, October 13 -
FESTIVAL!

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.

September is OPA Coffee Hour Month

Be on the lookout for sign-ups
so you can volunteer to help!
Coffee Hours will be Sundays:
1st, 15th, 22nd, & 29th



Anyone able to take the lead for
Sunday, September 1st
please contact Paulina at
480-740-3950



SAVE THE DATE:
Little Lambs'
Pumpkin Patch Outing
Saturday, September 28, 2019
More information coming soon!

Ministry Sunday
and the OPA-Hosted
Back to School Luncheon
Sunday
September 8th, 2019

Lunch **\$5.00**
Open to the entire Community!



All Youth Faith & Family Night
at AZ Diamondback's Game

FRIDAY - September 13, 2019

5:00pm Chapel Services at HTC
then carpool to the ballpark
Contact Paulina at 480-740-3950

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: _____

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) ___ / ___ / ___

Dance

By Gabriella Papatzimas

With less than 54 days till the Original Phoenix Greek Festival, the Greek Dance Program has been busy prepping for their debuts on stage. Ranging from PreK to Young Adult, our dance program consists of 100+ dancers split into 7 dance groups.

Our mission is to inspire and unite the community through our love of dance for generations to come.


Every year, our dancers spent over 50 hours prepping for their performances at the Greek Festival and yet they still stay on the stage after to keep the *kefi* going. We're all very excited to showcase what we've learned and show everyone how proud we are to be Greek.

Our dance groups are taught by Greek Dance alumni and dancers themselves: Niko Panagiotakopoulos, Gabriella Papatzimas, Tasso Annos, Athanasia Fournalis, Nikki Forman, Anna Fournalis, Athena Kretsedemas, Anna Panagiotakopoulos, Pamela Maydanis, and Angela Woertz.

It's not too late to register, so dust off your dance shoes and contact Niko at npanos01@yahoo.com if you're interested in dancing his year.




AHEPA Chapter 219



AHEPA Chapter 219

Historical AHEPA
Nick Maydanis Photographer



September Meeting Information

Our Next Meeting is:

Thursday, September 19, 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

Upcoming Event

Strike Up Some Fun!

AHEPA 219 Community Bowling Event

BRING YOUR TEAM AND TRY TO WIN THE COVETED TROPHY!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26, 2019
12 - 2PM

VIA LINDA LANES
9027 E. VIA LINDA
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85258



\$30 - Adults
\$20 - Students

RSVP to Tim Floor 602.616.1989
or Art Boujotas 480.586.0511

AHEPA Scholarships

AHEPA Chapter 219 2019/20 Scholarship Application

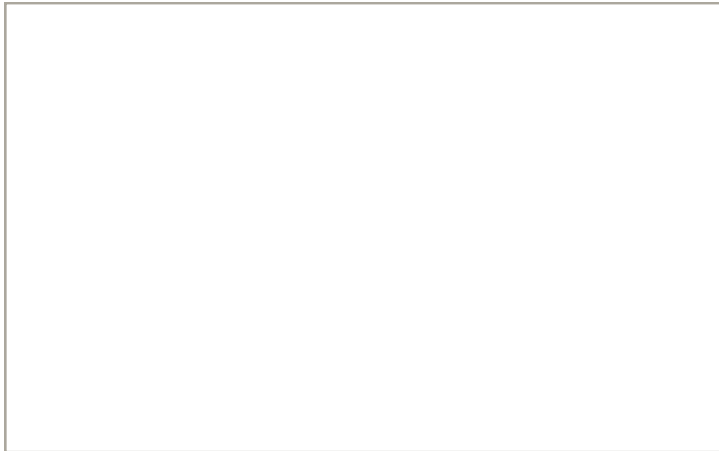
The 2019-2020 AHEPA Chapter 219 Scholarship Application is now available. All high school seniors, university, trade school, and vocational training students are encouraged to apply. The Application deadline is October 26, 2019 and the winners will be announced at our annual Scholarship luncheon on January 11, 2020.

Applications can be found on the website AHEPA219.com, or by contacting Ed Weiss, ewpwrqly@gmail.com



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: _____