

Desert Springs

April 2019
Volume 4 Issue 4



Outside and inside view
of one of the many
faceted glass windows.

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016
Office: 602-264-7863 Fax: 602-230-9099 Website: www.holytrinityphx.org

Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

Office Hours:
Monday–Thursday, 9:00am–3:00pm

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

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Desert Springs Deadline
The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Paul Katsenes—Vice President
Dina Anagnopoulos—Treasurer
Connie Contes—Assistant Treasurer
Andy Fourlis—Secretary
Charlie De Moss, Sandy Meris,
Socrates Papadopoulos,
Adam Venetis

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

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

Archdiocese Website
www.goarch.org

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(PC Liaison: Andi Fourlis)

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(PC Liaison:)

YAL 19-29 — Elliot Staikos: text 717-682-0550

YAL 30-49 — Nick Papas: npapas@yahoo.com
(PC Liaison: Adam Venetis)

Message from Father Apostolos

In the Shadow of the Cross



Standing behind the granite altar stone in our Cathedral is the *Stavromeno*, the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ to which is affixed the icon of Jesus, the "Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world."

Jesus' arms are outstretched as if He is embracing the Altar itself as He presides over every service celebrated in the Cathedral. Jesus is the one "*who offers Himself and Who is offered*" in the Holy Eucharist. But once a year the Cross is removed from its customary place and becomes the focal point of worship.

It has been said that it is impossible to understand Holy Orthodoxy without having experienced the full panoply of the Divine Services of Holy Week between Palm Sunday and Pascha (Easter.) And while each service manifests the presence of God in a unique way as we follow Jesus from Bethany to Jerusalem in His voluntary and life-giving Passion, Death, Burial, and glorious Resurrection, it is Holy Thursday evening which holds particular meaning for me.

For it is here during the singing of the 15th Antiphon of the Passion Gospels Matins service that the Holy Cross of Christ assumes its rightful place in our hearts. Singing the antiphon "*Today is suspended upon the Tree He Who suspended the land upon the waters*" as I carry the Cross around the nave is the most difficult task I or any priest is called to perform in the liturgical year.

Here, in the darkness of the candlelit Church, we experience the pathos of Calvary where God's plan of redemption is accomplished. Space and time fall away and there is only me and all my sins and shortcomings and my own desperate need for redemption and the Lamb of God Who offers Himself, though He is blameless, to ransom me from the clutches of death.

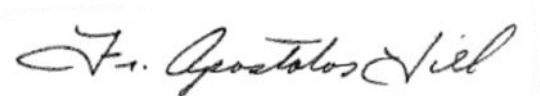
And here Jesus remains suspended on the Cross on the Solea until the Friday afternoon Vespers service when He is taken down, wrapped in clean linen, and placed upon the altar table. After the Holy Saturday morning service, the Cross is wound with the burial linen of Christ and the icon of Jesus still wrapped in His shroud is stored away until the Vespers of the Ascension forty days later when it is placed behind the Altar table again.

Somehow, this has always seemed odd to me; that this icon which so captured our imaginations and our hearts hours before is now placed in storage behind my vestments in the vestry. Was I only imagining or over-emphasizing its' significance? Is my fealty to the Cross of Christ measured only in a few hours? Am I free to disregard it's essential meaning the rest of the year?

It occurs to me that as we prepare to enter into the mystery of God's love demonstrated to us in the events of Holy Week that their significance and saving potential depend to a large extent on the energy I give them.

If I neglect to receive from God the outpouring of His Divine Spirit He offers to faithful hearts gathered together to witness the bloody Sacrifice of the God-Man, then the icon of the King of Glory becomes just an object peeking out from behind my vestments for forty days between Pascha and the Ascension.

So once again I ask for the grace of God to help me be fully present with my Redeemer, not just in body - dutifully "performing" the services - but in my mind and heart, as His everlasting love is actualized in the Divine Worship of Holy Week. May this be our common lot, beloved brothers and sisters and fellow strivers in this most precious Faith, as Holy Week draws near!



Stewardship 2019

Educate - Participate - Elevate

STEWARDS OF THE FAITH: *All Things are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ*

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE'S LENTEN CHALLENGE

Sunday, March 10th – Pascha, April 28th

Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage

PANTRY PARTNERS

Let's come together as a Cathedral community and support Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage during Lent. Help us fill **30 BOXES** with items sorely needed to stock the pantry shelves of the orphanage.

The boys living at St. Innocent Orphanage are considered orphans because they have been removed from their homes by social services, escaped an abusive home, or their parents are deceased or imprisoned. St. Innocent provides much more than basic needs for the boys who

reside there. They receive spiritual direction in the Orthodox faith, an education, private tutoring, athletics, extra-curricular activities, and a lasting sense of family and belonging fostered by unconditional love and support from the staff and volunteers. When the boys are accepted onto the ranch, it is with the knowledge that they will be there until they are grown men.



Beginning on March 10th, boxes will be placed in the Narthex, Church office, and Speros Community Center. Simply place the items from the list below in the boxes. The deadline to fill 30 boxes is Pascha on April 28th

- ✓ Bottled water (for the boy's school lunches)
- ✓ Brown sugar
- ✓ Canned chicken
- ✓ Canned fruit
- ✓ Canned mushrooms
- ✓ Canned salmon
- ✓ Cream of Wheat
- ✓ Granola bars
- ✓ Granulated coffee
- ✓ Jam
- ✓ Ketchup
- ✓ Low sugar cereal
- ✓ Maple syrup
- ✓ Natural honey
- ✓ Olive oil
- ✓ Pinto beans, dry
- ✓ Ragu sauce
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Salt
- ✓ Tea
- ✓ Tomato purée

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Have you filled out your 2019 Stewardship Card yet? We are getting closer to our goal of \$360,000 and 100% participation from our parishioners.

To date, we have 238 families who have pledged \$318,878.12. We are off to a great start, but need to close the gap. Become a current Steward today by going to www.holytrinityphx.org, clicking on the "Stewardship" button on the upper right hand corner, and fill out your Pledge Card.

Pledged Families

"In everything you do, put God first; and he will guide you and crown your efforts with success." Proverbs 3:5

2019 PLEGGED FAMILIES AS OF 3/27/19

Thank you generous stewards; we appreciate your support. If you have not filled out a pledge card for 2019, please pick one up in the Church Narthex or visit www.holytrinityphx.org.

Our Cathedral needs your support. Your ability to pledge and pay allows us to plan and operate the Cathedral and support our ministries. Working together our Cathedral will thrive and prosper.



If you have filled out a 2019 pledge card but your name does not appear on this list, please know any omissions are unintentional. Please call the church office immediately and we will resolve the situation.

Agelakos, Panagiota
Agnos, Peter & Sarah
Ainslie, Dorothy
Alexon, Evan & Terri
Anagnopoulos, Dina
Anest, Nikki
Angelos, Bettina
Annos, John & Sandy
Antoniadis, John
Apostle, Elaine
Asala, Sheila
Athens, Chris & Angie
Balanis, Constantine & Eleni
Barabatis, Ted & Rebecca
Beaty, Scott & Stacey
Benetos, Stamatios,
Bichekas, Dan & Vicki
Bilitsis, Peter & Jennifer
Bitzas, Angelo
Boukas, Denise
Boyd, Anthony
Boyle, William & Maria Thomas
Bramonte, Oscar & Heidi
Brook, Daniel & Fettlework
Brusalis, Chris & Georgia
Bruskas, Chris & Rita
Bruskas, Kristen
Carras, Kathy
Carris, Frank & Alice
Cartier, Casey & Dawn
Charnas, Laurel & Schiller, Todd
Chimonas, Thanos & Anna

Chotras, Harriet
Chotras, Jim
Choukalas, Athena
Choukalas, Pete & Kim
Christie, Patricia
Chronis, Christos & Dina
Contes, James & Connie
Cooper, Ed & Angie
Cosmakos, Kiki
Dal Pan, John & Jean
Daniolos, Nick & Sharon
Delord, Patrick & Karla
Demas, Tom & Irene
DeMoss, Bill
DeMoss, Charles
DeMoss, Chris
DeMoss, John & Marjorie
Demetropoulos, John & Mary
Denaxas, Basil & Ruth
Dimitriadis, Alexandros & Erika
Drozd, Stan & Fran
Ducas, Amanthis Mae
Dye, Denise
Dye, Kathryn
Economopoulos, Christos & Dena
Farr, Jeff & Judy
Fernandez, Greg
Fernandez, Helen
Foullis, Athanase & Georgia
Foullis, Ted & Andi
Friehe, Georgi
Froumis, George & Julie

Ganolis, Niki
Gardner, Semos
Gavras, Anne
Gavriilidis, Eugene & Kathy
Georgelos, Demetra
Georgelos, Diana
Georgelos, Pamela
Georgiou, Thomas & Christina
Giannopoulos, John
Glitsos, Stella
Goard, Joe & Diane
Goodman, Eva
Graham, Bill & Lynn
Hagerty, Amy
Haidos, Mary
Hall, Donald
Hapgood, Angela[†]
Harper, Terry
Harris, Courtney
Harris, Diana
Harris, Patsy
Heckel, Gregory & Stephanie
Hill, Rev. Father Apostolos & Presbytera Denise
Hotis, Bessie
Kalivas, James & Linda
Kaneris, Basile & Roula
Kantaros, Jean
Kantaros, Nick & Dena
Kapolas, William & Harriet
Karagiannis, Vasilios & Vicki
Karalekas, Steven & Christina

Pledged Families

Karegeannes, Virginia
Karoutas, Julie
Kassimatis, Stavros & Olga Maria
Katrakis, Leon & Fotini
Katsanos, Christos & Kelley
Katsaros, George & Niki
Katsenes, Andrea
Katsenes, John & Mary
Katsenes, Paul & Lori
Katsenes, Thomas
Katsufrakis, Helen
Kavouris, Jim & Poppy
Kechajias, Fanny
Kidd, Ronald & Virginia
Kidd, Timothy
Kimmell, Emily
Kokalis, Matina
Kontakis, Spiros & Maria
Kosta, Stella
Kostouros, Kostadinou & Anatoli
Koziris, Nickolas
Kratsas, Elizabeth & Johnny
Kretsedemas, Tammy
Kyprianou, Andreas & Cindy
Kyriacou, Haroula
Kyriacou, Theodore
Ladas, Tassie
Laitsas, Anastasia
Lambrou, John & Angie
Lamond, Bruce & Judith
Lampos, Elias & Mary
Linaris, Mike & Lea
Linos, Elizabeth
Lipnos, Luke & Maria
Lizanich, Gregory
Lourias, Efterpi
Machas, James & Stephanie
Maciejewski, Martin & Maria
Mackos, Joanna
Makridis, Marika
Makridis, Tony & Susan
Makris, Margo
Manelis, Jim & Donna
Maniatis, Bette
Maniatis, Maria
Marinakos, Bill & Rina
Markakis, Douglas & Anna
Martin, Becky
Mastorakos, Leonard & Mary Lou

Melas, Stephen
Meris, Joanne
Meris, Will & Sandy
Miller, Paul & Linda
Miller, Bill & Jean
Mitchell, Andrew
Mitchell, John & Eleanna
Mitchell, Philip & Helen
Moschovitis, Dino
Moschovitis, Helen
Neal, William & Hannah
New, Jerry & Kathy
Nicely, Edna & Michas, Peter
Nicholas, John & Maria
Nickalew, Evelyn
Nicoluzakis, Anthony
Ntatsos, Angelo & Marta
Oxley, Jeremy & Anastasia
Paletsos, Else
Palmer, Elizabeth
Panagiotakopoulos, Alexi & Alexia
Pandelakis, Emily
Papadopoulos, Bill & Soula
Papadopoulos, George & Chrysoula
Papadopoulos,
Socrates & Stephanie
Papaioannou, Stacy
Papas, Betty
Papas, Nick
Papasprou, Spyros & Rita
Papatzimas, Vassilia
Pappas, Irene
Pardhe, Daniel & Anna
Parmenter, Athena
Patten, Brad & Christine
Pedersen, Kai & Katherine
Pesognelli, John & Dina
Pestivas, Dean & Fotini
Pestivas, Zoe
Petroulakis, Chris & Jacque
Petsas, Bill & Kathy
Pickett, Brian & Athena
Poulakidas, Andreas & Mary
Poulos, George & Kay
Poulos, Tracy
Prato, Paul & Barbara
Pries, Panagiotos & Anthipe
Pritsos, Chris & Juli
Quinn, Bertha

Rabbitt, Lyda
Roopas, John
Sakkas, Lois
Sampson, James & Dimitra
Sarantes, Paul
Sedlacek, George & Diane
Sgouros, George & Traci
Siavelis, John
Skintzis, George & Evi
Skoubis, Elias & Phyllis
Smirniotis, John & Toni
Solomon, Constantin
Solomon, Jim & Pam
Sowers, Carol
Spell, Bill & Tiki
Speros, James & Christina
Staikos, Elias & Theodora
Stamadianos, Jim & Kathryn
Stamatelatos, Gerry & Nitsa
Stamatis, Andrew & Christine
Stamatis, Jonathan & Kristine
Tavlarides, Despina
Tavlarides, Billy & Becky
Theodoropoulos,
Gus & Mary Louise
Thomas, Jim G.
Thrasher, Father Deacon John &
Diakonissa Mary
Tropea, Thaddeus & Kathy
Tsaninos, Sophocles & Wendy
Tsantilas, Dean & Stella
Tsioutsopoulos, Dimitri
Tzavaras, Costa & Koko
Vardalos, Peter & Lindsay
Vasquez, Argyro
Vaughn, Scott & Terri
Venetis, Adam & Leah
Venetis, George & Connie
Veremis, Dorothy†
Walker, Ken & Angela
Wallerich, Catherine
Woerz, Angela
Wombacher, Michael & Christina
Yarusinsky, Stephanie
Zafirakis, George & Niki
Zaman, Anthony & Karen
Zannis, Dimitri & Eugenia
Zistatsis, Michael & Christina
Zoukis, Ann

† Deceased

Myrrhbearers

Submitted by Stacey Beaty

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.



Our Generous Community

Just *some* of the donations in the first three weeks towards our Lenten Challenge!



Coffee Hour

Thank you to [Greek School](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hour in March.



The April Coffee Hours will be sponsored by [Holy Trinity Academy](#).

Bible Study

Please join us Monday evenings at 6:00pm for Great Compline and for the Bible Study at 7:00pm, both in the Chapel. This five-week topical study will focus on the Commandments of Christ found in the Holy Gospels and how we apply them to our daily lives.



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.

Pan-Orthodox Vespers

March 17, 2019



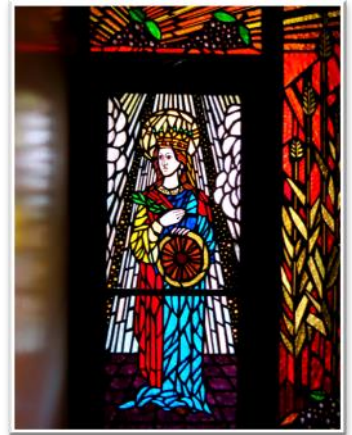
Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Mary Louise Theodoropoulos, President

"FRIENDS OF THE POOR"

An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!



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

Pascha Bake Sale

Ladies, mark your calendars! We need your help with baking on April 16th, 17th, & 18th starting at 9am!

Philoptochos is once again preparing Tsourekia and Koulourakia to be sold on Palm Sunday, April 21st.



Thank you to March's Hostesses
Argyro Vasquez and Joann Karros
(not pictured),
with assist from Zoe Pestrivas



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

Annual Philoptochos Bake Sale

PHILOPTOCHOS' PASCHA BAKE SALE
PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 21st, 2019
FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY



Due to the large demand for Tsourekia, Philoptochos has agreed to take prepaid orders. The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, April 14th.**

Orders will be taken following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Center during Coffee Social on March 24th, March 31st, April 7th, and April 14th (final day).

Tsourekia purchases on the day of sale will be **limited to three.**

TSOUREKIA-----\$8.00 each
KOULOOURAKIA-----\$6.00 per dozen

Call Georgia Furlis @ 602-291-5911 or Mary Louise Theodoropoulos @ 602-943-5080 to order. However, all call-in orders must be paid by **April 14th** or the order will be cancelled.

Pan-Orthodox Vespers Reception

March 17, 2019



Pascha Flowers

Pascha Flower Donation

Remember beloved family and friends and beautify the Cathedral with plants this Pascha.

Donations of \$20.00 per remembered individual or married couple are appreciated.

Complete this form and return with your donation to the Church office or enclose in an offering envelope, to place in a collection tray.

Please provide your order by April 24, 2019.

Donor name: _____

Donor phone #: (____) _____

Name (s) of those honored and the relationship to donor:

1. _____


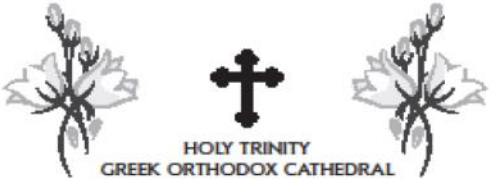
2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Total donation: \$ _____

Questions? Please call the Cathedral office: 602-264-7863

Salutation Icon Flowers



Salutation Icon Flowers

Decorating the Annunciation Icon each week of Lent is an Orthodox tradition, and a lovely way to memorialize loved ones by supporting our Cathedral.

Suggested donation of \$50.

Complete this form and return with your donation to the Cathedral Office, or enclose in an offering envelope and place in collection tray.

Donor name: _____

Donor phone #: (____) _____

Name(s) of those honored and the relationship to donor:

Please provide your order by April 17, 2019.

Questions? Please call the Cathedral office: 602-264-7863




Children's Lesson

March 3, 2019



Sunday of Orthodoxy

March 17, 2019



Sunday of the Cross

March 31, 2019





Palm Sunday

**Annual Luncheon
April 21, 2019**

Speros Community Center

Hosted by the Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish Council

immediately following church services

Lenten buffet includes:

Grilled salmon with lemon-dill sauce,
pasta with marinara sauce,
green beans, salad, roll, dessert and wine

Catered by Yianni

~Table reservations require paid tickets~

Adults - \$25.00

Children Ages 6-12 - \$12.00

To reserve tables of 10 people,
contact **Sandy Meris**,
602-525-0345 or sandymeris@yahoo.com



Sunday School

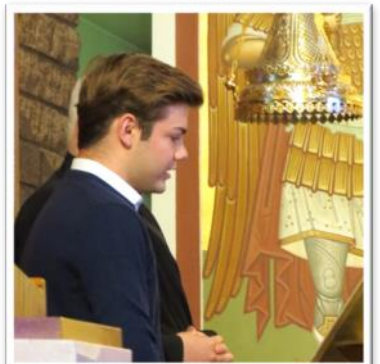
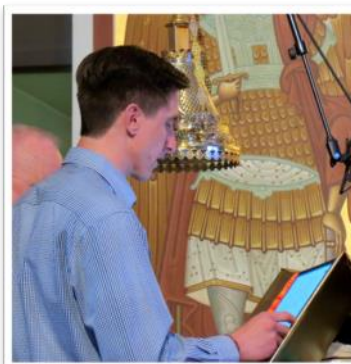
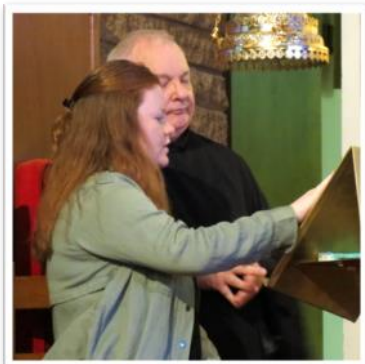
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

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!!!

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!



March Readers

Includes Photos by Presvytera Denise

Lenten Confessions

In order to facilitate as many Confessions as possible during Great Lent, the Saturdays of April 6th & 13th have been set aside from 9:00am to 11:00am. Please phone the Church office at 602-264-7863 to schedule your 10-15 minute time with Father Apostolos.



Stewardship—WeShare

Look for this image on the updated www.holytrinityphx.org website to create your online Stewardship profile.



2019 Pan-Orthodox Vespers

The Fourth Sunday of Lent
April 7, 2019

St. Ignatius of Antioch Orthodox Church
5515 E. Redmont Circle
Mesa, AZ 85215
480-892-6224
Homilist: TBD

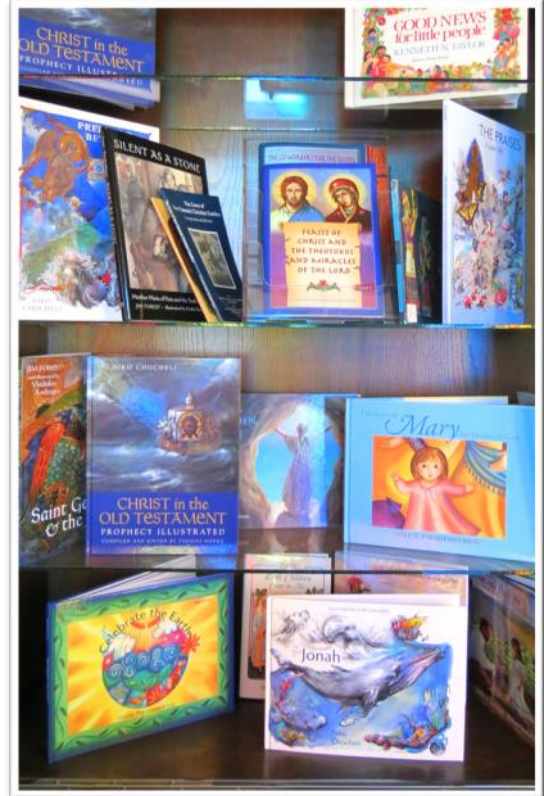
The Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 14, 2019

St. John the Baptist Romanian Orthodox Church
3749 W. Behrend Dr.
Glendale, AZ 85308
623-582-3150
Homilist: TBD



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!



Save the Date



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



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.

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 email julipritsos@holytrinityacademyphx.org.

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.

Music Ministry

by Terri Alexon, Director



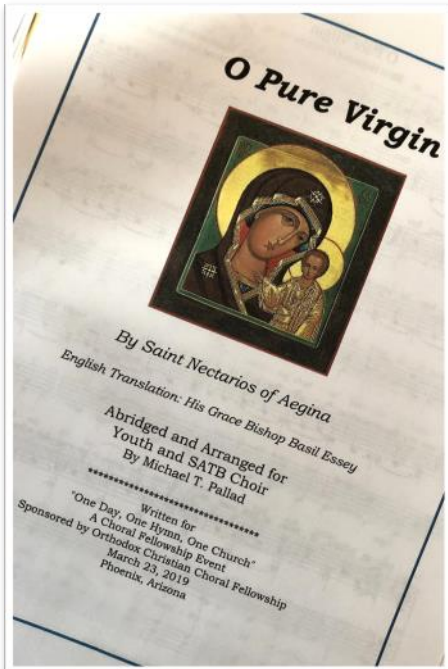
"So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding." 1 Corinthians 14:15

On Saturday, March 23rd, a few members of the Cathedral Choir and Holy Trinity parishioners attended the "One Day, One Hymn, One Church" music workshop organized by the **Orthodox Christian Choral Fellowship (OCCF)**.

This event was hosted by Sts. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Phoenix. Fr. Michael Pallad from St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria conducted his new choral arrangement of "O Pure Virgin," a beautiful hymn originally written in the 14th century by St. Neektarios of Aegina.

Nearly 70 voices—with some sojourning all the way from Tucson—were present to sing! The beginning of the arrangement features a small group of about 10 young ladies who sing the melody supported by the adult women singing the ison (drone).

The day concluded with a professional video and Mp3 recording that will be made available for your listening pleasure by way of social media and the OCCF's website, www.occfellowship.org.



The next OCCF workshop is scheduled on Saturday, **September 21, 2019** at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, Scottsdale. No choral experience is required! Please mark your calendars to participate and enjoy a day of music and singing with your fellow Orthodox Christians.

Have a Blessed Lent!

Photos by Kristen Bruskas

St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Patsy Harris

Kali Anastasi!

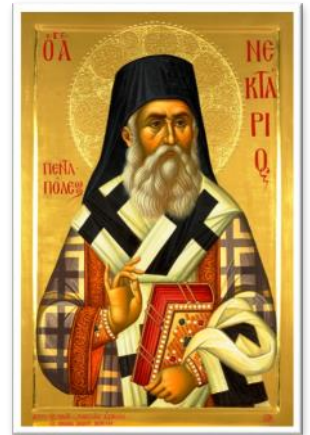
To begin this month, here are a few reviews of books available regarding Great Lent and Holy Pascha:

Food, Faith and Fasting by Rita Madden—This expansion on her popular podcast helps us to eat to nourish our bodies and our souls. 264pp.

Great Lent by Alexander Schmemmann—This one introduces the reader to the reasons for and necessity of fasting and other Lenten practices in the Orthodox Church. 140pp.

Beautiful things, an Orthodox Coloring Book—This is a 64-page coloring book for ages 3-5 years.

The Miracle of the Red Egg by Daria Fisher—This book tells how the red egg tradition started, way back in Apostolic times, as St. Mary Magdalene convinced the Roman Emperor of Christ's Resurrection. 32 pp.



April continues our Lenten journey for its first three weeks, with Complines on Mondays, Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on Wednesdays, and the Akathist Hymn on Fridays. On April 7th and 14th we celebrate the last two Sundays of Great Lent – Sunday of St. John Climacus and St. Mary of Egypt.

Holy Week, beginning with Lazarus Saturday, and Holy and Great Pascha is the holiest time of the year for Orthodox Christians. How wonderful that this year ALL Christians are celebrating at the same time!

April 20th—Lazarus Saturday: this day is not included with Great Lent, or with Holy Week. It and Palm Sunday are set apart as a joyous prelude to the days of grief to come. The resurrection of His friend Lazarus in Bethany shows us Christ's power over Death and is a precursor of Christ's own triumph over it. Also, when Jesus weeps for His friend, we see His human nature while, being God, He commands Lazarus to rise. This also shows us that, even though we sin, Christ's Love for us can renew our spirit just as Lazarus's body was renewed after being dead for four days.

April 21st—Palm Sunday: "Behold, thy King cometh!"

April 22nd-27th—Holy Week begins with three days of preparation for the Passion of Christ. Each of the services on these days is rich in meaning. Be sure to use your Holy Week book to follow along and to ponder on these wonders! Listen closely on Holy Tuesday to the Choir sing the Hymn of Kassiani, "the woman who has fallen into many sins recognizes Thy godhead, O Lord. She takes upon herself the duties of a myrrh-bearer and makes ready the myrrh of mourning before Thy entombment. ...deign to bend down Thyself to me and the lamentations of my heart, O Thou who spread out the Heavens. I will fervently embrace Thy sacred feet and wipe them with the tresses of hair of my head... Do not disregard me Thy servant, O Thou Whose mercy is boundless!" (from the Troparion of Kassiani)

April 25th—Holy Thursday: this remembers the Mystery of the Upper Room, where at the Mystical Supper the Lord gave us the Holy Eucharist. The Twelve Gospels of the Passion are read.

April 26th—Holy Friday: this is the mystery of Golgotha, Christ's Crucifixion, whereby He pays for our Salvation. As you join in the singing of the Lamentations, pay attention to the meaning of the words!

Bookstore message continued on page 19

Bookstore message continued from page 18

April 27th—Holy Saturday: while Jesus rests in His tomb, the Church anticipates His Resurrection in the service this day (Proti-Anastasi), ending the sorrow of His Passion and celebrating the joy of His Resurrection. This is Father Apostolos' favorite service, so let's all join him!

April 28th—Great and Holy Pascha: Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Don't forget the "Agape" Vespers in the afternoon of Holy Pascha, in which the appearance of the Risen Christ to His Apostles is read in as many languages as possible, to remind us that we ALL belong to Christ, if we answer His knock on the door of our heart!

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 NO prostrations this week, as we stand with our Risen Christ in celebration. (We kneel again at Pentecost.)

April 23rd—St. George: George was a Roman soldier who refused to pray to idols, resigned his commission, was persecuted and then beheaded in 303 A.D. During the Crusades, he appeared and encouraged the Christians many times, particularly in the hard-fought battle at Antioch. This is why the Orthodox titled him "Great among martyrs" and the "Victory-clad George"! Since his feast day comes during Holy Week this year, we celebrate on April 29th, Renewal Monday.

Kali Anastasi! Christ Anesti! 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

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

Congratulations, All!



Narthex Ministry

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!



Narthex team members are here to assist!

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.

Security Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2019



Safety and security issues that our Parish community should be aware of were discussed. Defibrillators use was also reviewed. For more information, contact Socrates Papadopoulos at papadopoulosssx@hotmail.com or Paul Katsenes at pkatsenes@cox.net, cell 602-421-7200.

Support Project Mexico

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!



Please make checks payable to OCMC

Directions to Kiwanis Park:

Direction from I-10: exit Baseline East. Turn South (right) on Mill. Turn right onto All American Way. Take the first Right into the (first) Parking Area. Proceed to the water: Ramadas #11 & #12 by the bathrooms.

Direction from 101: exit Baseline West. Turn South (left) on Mill. Turn right onto All American Way. Take the first Right into the (first) Parking Area. Proceed to the water: Ramadas #11 & #12 by the bathrooms.

*SPONSORED BY: OCMC & Project Mexico Missions Alumni
SUPPORTED BY: The Arizona Council of Eastern Orthodox Clergy*

“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.



Maintenance Corner

Submitted by Ted Fourlis

It has been a busy couple months for the Maintenance Committee. Many thanks to Mr. Zannis and John Katsaros for repairing our parking lot curbing. This was a very difficult project and now the curbing that was broken throughout the parking lot is completely repaired! PLEASE be careful driving in our lot and not to hit the curbs.

We are in the midst of completing a water assessment on our campus water use; we are in the process of repairing another backflow leak; Peter Bilitsis is currently working on a parking lot lighting solution to enhance the lighting in our parking lots; a bad photo cell that runs the south and west back parking lot lights has been repaired; our high lift was repaired by Jim Contes and is now working; the field damage from the storm has been repaired and back filled with new dirt; we are working to repair the entry brick wall to the west; the ice machine in the kitchen has been repaired; the roof drains at the Speros Center have been cleaned out so not to back up; caretakers Paul and Dimitri replaced the molded baseboards along the bottom of the stage and it looks great; we are continuing our basement cleanout.

We are still looking for volunteers to assist with these and other projects still needed. We have a great team working hard to improve our aging campus. Please contact Ted Fourlis at 602-625-8835 and htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com or Peter Bilitsis at 602-317-7780 and pkbilitsis@gmail.com for further information.



Thank you, Ted & Peter

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



Tell Us Something Good

We want to express our gratitude for the continued attention to ACCESS for our parishioners who need extra care navigating Holy Trinity Cathedral's grounds. Thank you for the painting and repairing of our lot, ramp, and steps and for the recent focus on seniors who use walkers, canes, and wheelchairs.

*Sincerely,
Appreciative Seniors*

THANK YOU, ANDREA KATSENES

The Cathedral entrance will be colorful for Easter. The four flower beds were just planted with red geraniums and white alyssums donated by Andrea Katsenes and planting donated by John Katsaros, our landscaper.

Our Church Family

Funeral

"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

3/5/2019

Dorothy Veremis

May her memory be eternal.

3/8/2019

Tessie Renshaw

May her memory be eternal.

3/15/2019

Angela Hapgood

May her memory be eternal.



"YAL2" Event

New to our community?

Already a member, but looking to meet more people?

Join the Holy Trinity social ministry for single Orthodox adults. This month's gathering will be dinner at The Macintosh (Town & Country Center) on **Saturday, April 13th at 7pm**. The Macintosh is located at 2119 East Camelback Road in Phoenix. We will meet by the main entrance. For directions, please visit their website at <https://www.themacintoshaz.com> 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!

Follow Holy Trinity Cathedral on Facebook

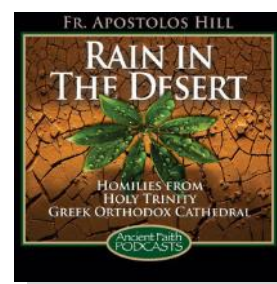
The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of many of our services.



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.



Movie Event

March 30, 2019



Desert Diamonds



Senior Parishioners
and their guests

Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

April is approaching fast, what better time than during Lent to take a trip to **St. Anthony's Monastery in Florence**. The best time would be on **Saturday, April 14th**. We will have to car-pool and some of our members that work would be more available to go on a weekend. Less traffic, also. We can leave from Holy Trinity at 9:00am. After visiting the monastery, we can have lunch at the **Mt. Athos Restaurant in Florence**. They are used to taking good care of large groups that have attended the monastery and their menu is quite large and can accommodate those who are fasting. We will have to have your response ASAP in order to arrange carpooling.

For anyone interested: **The Arizona Winds Concert Band** will have a free concert on **Sunday, April 7th at 3:00pm** at the Cactus High School Performing Arts Center, 6330 W. Greenway Rd, Glendale, AZ. "Water Works" April Showers Bring May Flowers; Blue Danube, Johann Straus; Moon River, Robert Russell; Sea Songs, Henry Mancini, etc.

Please call or text Julie Karoutas at 623.313.8720 or Judith Lamond at 703.819.9957 to make your reservation ASAP; You can also email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
Please leave your name & number of guests.

Praying that you have a Blessed Holy Pascha.
Warm regards, with Christ's love,

Julie

Greek School



Holy Trinity Greek
&
Heritage School of Phoenix

March 25th Celebration



Pascha Candles



Greek School is selling

Pascha Candles

THEME: Saints!

Cost \$10 each

Please specify the Saint you want
on the candle.

Candles will be sold on Sundays during Coffee Hour.

Questions: email Eirinie Mackos at
Eirinie@gmail.com

Coffee Socials



Angela Scopelianos and
Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
assist with one of the
Coffee Socials offered by
Greek School in March.



OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Cindy Kyprianou, President



Where every adult is a parent to our youth.

As Lent approached, our church began the first Saturday of Souls before Meatfare Sunday. Our youth spent a Friday evening on March 8th with Fr. Apostolos to make Koliva and learn the meaning of commemorating those who have fallen asleep in our faith.

On Saturday morning, March 23rd, we held the Annual All Valleys Lenten Retreat with the theme: Is It Possible to KNOW God? Special thanks to Frs. Apostolos, Jacob and Timothy and John Schneider for this fun and enriching experience for our youth and parents.

The Little Lambs went on a train ride at the McCormick Ranch train park on Saturday, March 30th.

OPA Parents meeting was on Sunday, March 31st, after Divine Liturgy. All parents were welcome to bring your suggestions, comments and smiles to our friendly conversations.

The Holy Eucharist is the center of our Orthodox Faith. Our youth will have a special opportunity to have a hands on experience with Fr. Apostolos to bake prosphora and learning this important sacrament in depth on Friday evening, April 12.

Kali Sorakosti

Please follow our weekly OPA newsletter for our upcoming events.



All Youth (K-12th) Event:

Friday, April 12, 2019

6:00-8:00 pm

The Holy Eucharist is the center of our Orthodox Faith.

Come join Fr. Apostolos with baking the prosphora and learn more about this important sacrament.



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

Lenten Retreat and Workshop

March 23, 2019



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)

Registration closes May 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.



info@allsaintscamparizona.org
AllSaintsCampArizona.org

Are you a young family in the church
looking to get involved?

PLEASE JOIN US



Little Lambs Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 27th
Immediately following Liturgy

Games and an Easter Egg Hunt
\$5 DONATIONS TO OPA WELCOME

RSVP to Angela at angelagarozzo@gmail.com.

Little Lambs Railroad Park Outing

Saturday, March 30, 2019



AHEPA Chapter 219



AHEPA Chapter 219

AHEPA Awards Night

Nick Maydanis Photographer



Congratulations to Chris Johnson
AHEPAN of the Year

April Meeting Information

Our Next Meeting is:

Thursday, April 18, 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: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

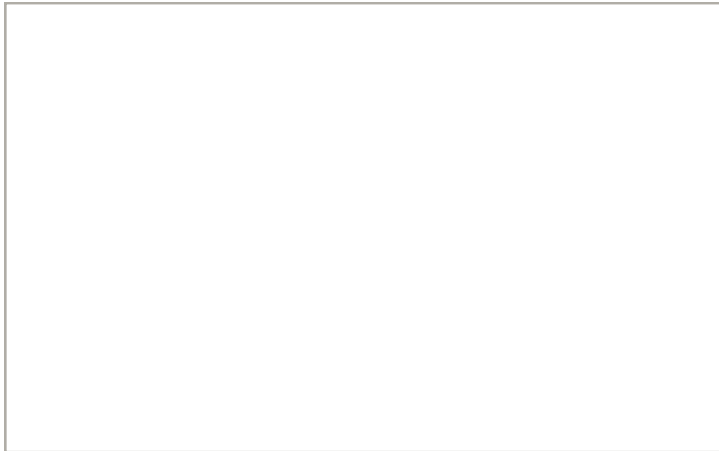
Contact Phone: _____

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) ___ / ___ / ___

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: _____