

# Desert Springs



August 2019  
Volume 4 Issue 7

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS OF SAN FRANCISCO  
IS HONORED TO ANNOUNCE THE FIRST VISIT OF



*His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America*

to the State of Arizona

**Tuesday, August 6, 2019**  
6:30 p.m.

**The Service of Paraklesis to the Theotokos**



**HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**  
1973 E. Maryland Avenue | Phoenix, AZ 85016

*Please join in prayer with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,  
along with Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, and the local clergy for this Service of Supplication.*

*All are invited to enjoy a reception and fellowship following the service.*

**Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral**

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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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Charlie De Moss, Sandy Meris,  
Socrates Papadopoulos,  
Adam Venetis

**Holy Trinity Cathedral Website**  
[www.holyltrinityphx.org](http://www.holyltrinityphx.org) — NEW!

**Metropolis of San Francisco Website**  
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# Message from Father Apostolos

Mō'men(t)əm

*the impetus and driving force gained by the development of a process or course of events.*



Gathering momentum in life is not something easily achieved. Some may suggest that momentum appears when preparation meets opportunity. And while this is partly true, there remains a third element necessary to gather momentum; *execution*, or the application of *effort*.

Holy Trinity Cathedral is being propelled forward on a fresh burst of momentum! Or, as someone recently remarked to me "we have our groove back." That this is happening is far from incidental or accidental; rather, this is the result of sustained effort on the part of many faithful members who volunteer time and resources to enlarge the Kingdom of God here in Phoenix. The evidence of this is readily apparent to all.

Take our music ministry, for instance. One cannot fail to perceive the diligent efforts of our choir members and chanters in the weekly worship services celebrated at Holy Trinity. Our music ministers have embraced their sacred tasks seriously and prayerfully, attending the weekly rehearsals, arriving prepared and prayed-up to not only sing but to do so reverently. The results of their devotion speak for itself!

Our Youth Ministry is also riding a fresh burst of momentum with the adoption of our Pastoral Assistant, Alexander Eliades, into the Cathedral family. Already well known to many of our Holy Trinity young ones through All Saints Camp, Alexander hit the ground running and has been gathering our youth together frequently, strategizing with our newly-elected OPA (Orthodox Parents Assoc.) officers and members, and coordinating youth events with our Valley sister parishes. He will spearhead a robust youth ministry for our parish which will bear fruit in our young ones' lives for years to come.

The care and condition of the campus itself is riding a fresh burst of momentum. It is no small task to maintain an \$11MM commercial campus the size and age of ours. Multiple layered and complex systems require constant monitoring, repair, and replacement. You will have noticed that long-deferred repairs have been made and we are now not only *reacting* to the pressing crisis but *responding* to the needs of the campus. Again, no accident here! Rather, knowledgeable and diligent volunteers and donors (and our Sons of Pericles Chapter) have stepped up to put things right! Kudos to them all!

Our Outreach Ministry is also riding a fresh burst of momentum! What once may have been viewed as "a nice thing to do," is now understood as critical for the stability and growth of our membership. Holy Trinity is a magnet for visitors in and to the Valley. It is a rare Sunday morning indeed that doesn't see a handful of visitors to our services. New members remark to me about the beauty and authenticity of our worship, of our friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and on how many other young families call the Cathedral home. We are a great place to be with a bright future ahead of us!

Lastly though not finally since I could go on and on, our Ministry of Administration is riding a fresh burst of momentum. Your Parish Council has been working very diligently behind the scenes in the pre-work of a long-range planning or strategic initiative for Holy Trinity. Assessing the various key aspects of parish life such as those listed above and others, the council is building an architecture to guide an expanded initiative which will involve the entire parish. We understand that yesterday's solutions may not avail for tomorrow's problems as we fulfill the Great Commission of

*Fr. Apostolos' Message continued on page 4*  
*Desert Springs August 2019*

Jesus Christ and we are challenging ourselves to think creatively and faithfully.

From the moment I first encountered Holy Trinity Cathedral, I understood that ours is a community with a rich history, an abundance of available human and material resources, and uncharted potential for growth. So what may yet be missing? Perhaps... *you!* As in every healthy organism, each cell must be in good working order and offering its energy to the whole. Imagine what we can achieve together for the cause of salvation! Imagine how many more souls can find the same love and mercy of God when we all apply our gifts, when all our oars are in the water!

Holy Trinity Cathedral is a blessed place to be and we are blessed to call her our parish home! If you are not yet a member and would like to be, or a lifelong member searching for new ways to contribute, please speak with one of the many ministry team members, parish council members, or with me to join our family and to become more energetically involved!



## One Spirit + One Vision

Submitted by Charlie DeMoss

*OS+OV, the foundation of our ongoing building fund program.*

We are very thankful for those 248 individuals and families in our community who have come forward to build our beautiful Educational and Cultural Center. These generous donors have pledged \$3,298,004 of which \$3,026,351 has been paid to date. The monies contributed to OS+OV are used to pay down our \$600,000 mortgage loan. Reducing the mortgage helps eliminate the amount of annual interest we pay and reduces the financial burden we would pass on to future generations.

Please consider initiating, or if you are already a donor, increasing your pledge to this program. In addition to the typical monetary gifts, we have also received gifts in the form of stocks and real property. By donating assets held more than a year and worth more than their original cost, you can avoid paying capital gain taxes. Parishioners over the age of 70½ have a special tax advantage, their IRA mandatory distribution may be given directly to Holy Trinity, to avoid income tax on that distribution. These are tax efficient ways to help the Cathedral.

Holy Trinity parishioners have for years expressed their Love for God through his Church, by, among other things, their financial sacrifices. Please join with those who have put their legacy in Holy Trinity Cathedral's past accomplishments and witness the Joy of giving. Help us reduce, and ultimately eliminate the mortgage loan by giving to OS+OV, with your donation of cash, stocks, or real estate.

If you can give above and beyond your annual Stewardship pledge, please call the Church office @ 602-264-7863 for information about the One Spirit + One Vision (OS+OV) program.



# Message from Pastoral Assistant Alexander

Hello everyone!



First, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who has welcomed my wife and me to Holy Trinity over the summer, it's been a wonderful beginning. I had the fantastic opportunity to be with our youth at All Saints Camp to begin the summer and talking about this upcoming year with the leaders of OPA and others has me so excited to get this ministry year under way! Father Apostolos and I have had many conversations recently about the great momentum that is building here at Holy Trinity Cathedral and we are eager to harness this energy and desire for growth into something real.

I was asked to give a run down of how the year will take shape and also about Youth and Young Adult Ministry in general, so before we go too far, we do need to talk about what our ministry plan is here at Holy Trinity. Our goal for all ministry is simple: to grow closer to Christ and His Church. That's it. No tricks or bait and switches, just Christ. The real question is this: how can we do this effectively? This has been the question for the Church in America since we arrived here. We have tried the Sunday School model, which can be effective but will never be enough for us to learn about Christ and *own* our faith (imagine only sending your kids to school for math for 30 minutes *per week* and expecting them to be math whizzes by the end of High School). We have tried different "programs" more or less related to the faith to try to get the kids "more involved;" we have seen the result and it is not encouraging. We have tried the "fun" approach but there will *always* be somewhere more "fun" than the Church. However, what the world and most of all our youth need is The Truth, and The Truth is found nowhere but the Church. I'm not here to say I have all (or even some of) the answers. What I'm here for is this, to help everyone earnestly grow towards Christ as best as we all can.

I harped on three things with the kids we had at camp and they will almost be our maxims of ministry this year:

- ✓ Ask questions! We all have questions about the faith that we run into every once in awhile, in fact some of these questions can be doubts. *This is good!* A faith without questions is dead. We are not told to blindly believe but to "come and see" and "search the Scriptures." Let's do it!
- ✓ I also asked our campers if they were at peace while at camp; not necessarily "happy" all the time, but at peace, and all of them said yes. I posited to them that this was not just because we were "with our Greek friends" but because we prayed. We prayed every day and night together, before every meal, and before a most of our activities. There was a culture of prayer and unsurprisingly, when we invited God into our lives, we became peaceful. Not perfect, but peaceful and God-centered.
- ✓ Finally I told them this: Holy Trinity is your home. It is not a place that we should feel shy or inhibited or most of all afraid to be. Come all the time! Come see Father and I any time you feel sad, or lonely, or happy, or exuberant, come talk to us, come talk to God. Come ask us questions. Ask us to open the Church for you so you can simply sit in the presence of God and pray there whenever you want. We are here for you, this Church is here for you, use it! Never be afraid to ask us questions or simply to talk to us. We are all a community and family here at Holy Trinity and a true family is always there for each other and their homes are always open for others.

So what will this year look like in a more concrete sense? We want to build our outreach to every age as much as we can. This means from preschool to parents and even grandparents, we want you to grow towards Christ! We will most likely have

# MINISTRY SUNDAY

Hosted by the Stewardship Committee

**Sunday, September 8th**

**Following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Community Center**

We invite all our parishioners to join us for our annual Ministry Sunday. Each ministry will have a table set up where you can get involved, sign up to volunteer, or just gather information.

Holy Trinity boasts dozens of ministries with something for everyone. Whether your calling is singing in the Choir, teaching Sunday School, becoming a “Friend to the Poor” by joining Philoptochos, or sharing your love of the Greek language by teaching Greek School, we encourage you to get involved!

## DEFINITION OF STEWARDSHIP

The responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving.



### STEWARDSHIP FACTS:

*Did you know that....*

- \* In order to be a Steward in Good Standing you must fill out a new Pledge Card every single year.
- \* Holy Trinity's expenses average about \$60,000.00 per month.
- \* Current Stewardship brings in \$30,859.33 per month.
- \* We rely on proceeds from the Festival, rentals, and the Little Big Minds lease make up the difference.

## Coffee Hour

Thank you to the [Philoptochos](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hour in June and the [Parish Council](#) for sponsoring Coffee Hour in July.

The August Coffee Hours will be sponsored by [Sunday School](#).



*Pastoral Assistant Alexander's Message continued from page 5*

meetings with GOYA and JOY on certain days of the month at Holy Trinity as we have before but also intersperse other meetings and get-togethers through the month along with meetings with our sister parishes of the Phoenix area. We *will* have fun *and* will learn and hopefully, most importantly, grow to Christ. Come join us on our Ministry Kick-off on Saturday, August 17th at 5pm. All ages are welcome to join in fellowship, food, and a movie. After the movie I want to have a conversation with every age group separately, including the parents, to introduce myself and get to know them and their needs. So come, talk to me and let me know what you want out of the year or get to know me and let's grow towards Christ and each other!

# 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.

Thank you to June's Hostesses  
Sheila Asala, Kristen Vasilarakos, and  
Gina Graham



## 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



# Father's Day Luncheon

Hosted by Philoptochos  
June 16, 2019

Philoptochos hosted a complimentary Father's Day Brunch in the Speros Center following Divine Liturgy. Sandwiches, salads, fruit, sweets, and a cake provided by Lyda Rabbitt in memory of her husband John.



(above) Father's Day photo with the menfolk in attendance! Let's make this an annual tradition!

(below) Some of the many hands that put together the delicious feast.

(left) Thank you to Zoe Pestrivas, who organized the food for each of the five Sundays and decorated the serving tables.





# Philoptochos Meeting and Game Night

June 6, 2019



## Historical Museum

Helen Mary Moschovitis  
Born: April 27, 1933  
Passed: June 20, 2019

Helen was born in Phoenix and raised in the old Holy Trinity Church at 333 E. Virginia Avenue. Helen was an active member of Holy Trinity Cathedral. Her parents Gust and Mary Metsopolos were one of the first families of Holy Trinity and raised their children George, Jimmy, and Helen in Phoenix. Gust Metsopolos was President of the Parish Council in the early 1950s and Mary Metsopolos was active in Philoptochos.

Helen grew up going to Greek School, singing in the Choir, and Greek dancing in her Amelia costume.

Helen married Jim Moschovitis and they had two children, Mary and Dino, who were also raised in Holy Trinity.

Helen was an active member of Philoptochos and also served on the Board of Directors of Holy Trinity Cathedral's Museum.

She will be missed. May her memory be eternal.



METROPOLIS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS OF SAN FRANCISCO  
IS HONORED TO ANNOUNCE THE FIRST VISIT OF



*His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America*

to the State of Arizona

**Tuesday, August 6, 2019**

**6:30 p.m.**

**The Service of Paraklesis to the Theotokos**



**HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL**  
**1973 E. Maryland Avenue | Phoenix, AZ 85016**

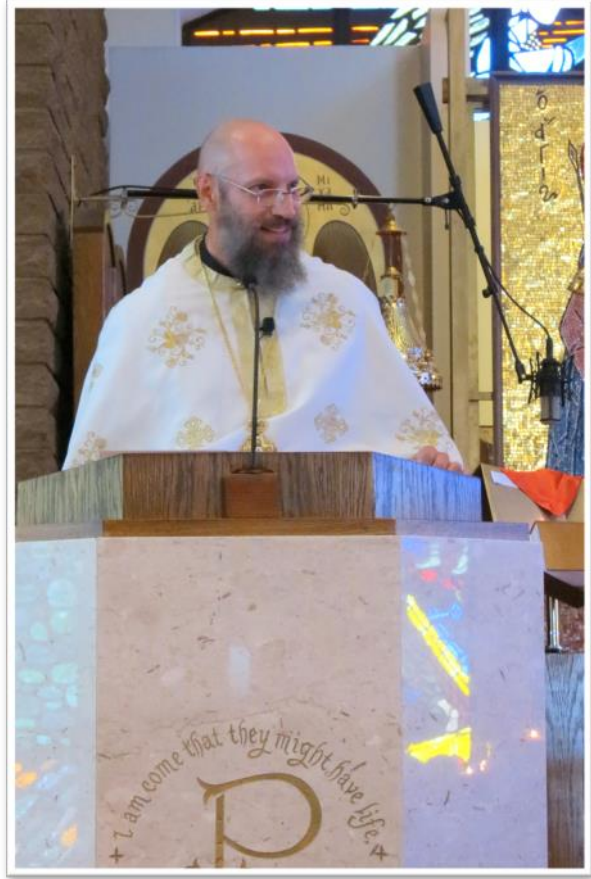
*Please join in prayer with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America,  
along with Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, and the local clergy for this Service of Supplication.*

*All are invited to enjoy a reception and fellowship following the service.*



# Welcome!

Summer Divine Liturgies with Father Virgil and Father Timothy



## Trisagion Hymn

Father leading the Congregation

July 14, 2019

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.





# Music Ministry

by Terri Alexon, Director

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music.*

**Psalms 98:4**

During Divine Liturgy recently, the Cathedral Choir was led by Assistant Director Greg Lizanich.

Greg has been a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Choir for nearly 30 years! Among his multiple volunteer positions, Greg has not only served on the Parish Council for two consecutive terms, including as Assistant Treasurer, but also as a youth advisor, a member of the Stewardship Committee, dance group, and Festival church tours.

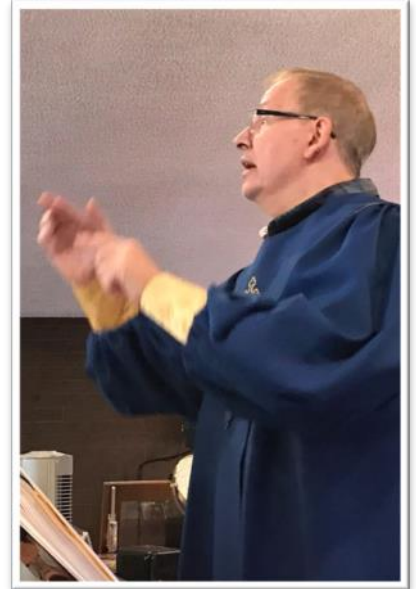
Musically, Greg has studied piano privately as well as choral, directing under Dr. Tikey Zes and former Cathedral Choir Director, Kristen Bruskas. During Kristen's tenure, Greg served as assistant Choir Director for eight years. He also studied Byzantine chant with Protopsaltis George Duvall. In 2014, Greg assumed the role of Assistant Director of the Cathedral once again. Currently, Greg serves as Treasurer on the Cathedral Choir Board.

Originally from the Cleveland, Ohio area, Greg studied business at Ohio State University. Upon graduation, Greg joined his family who had relocated to Phoenix. He has worked in the insurance industry for more than 27 years mostly handling Workers Compensation litigation cases at Travelers Insurance. He then worked with Hospice of the Valley in clinical data management, eventually taking early retirement. However, Greg continues to volunteer with Hospice and several community groups.

In his spare time, Greg enjoys watching sports and is a huge Buckeye fan, of course, and Steelers, too! Time permitting, he also enjoys tennis, swimming, skiing, working out and running (with three completed marathons to his credit).

For the past five years, Greg has been a member of the Phoenix Suns "Dancing Dads," performing at the Suns games at least once a month. The "Dancing Dads" have also take part in the Dupree Dance Competition, Glendale Glitters, other special and charitable events. A major highlight was in December 2015 when the dancing group were contacted by America's Got Talent television show to audition where they eventually made it to the 2nd preliminary round!

We're very blessed to have such a talented person like Greg in the Holy Trinity Music Ministry for hopefully, years to come!



# 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](http://occfellowship.org) after August 1st

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



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





# 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!



Includes photos by Presvytera Denise

June and July Readers.  
Not pictured:  
Harris Manelis  
Gus Pyle  
Sofia Walsh

## Altar Service

Interested in learning more about serving on the altar?

Contact:

Chris Francis at [battersbox7@yahoo.com](mailto:battersbox7@yahoo.com),  
David Haag at [davidmhaag@yahoo.com](mailto:davidmhaag@yahoo.com) or  
Deacon John Thrasher at [thrasheraz@cox.net](mailto:thrasheraz@cox.net)





# Maintenance Corner

Submitted by Ted Furlis

June and July have been busy months for your maintenance committee. The parking lot light project is in process. Ted Furlis and Peter Bilitsis replaced all the bulbs in the back lot around the Speros Community Center with LED lighting bulbs. The back lot is much brighter now. The main parking lot lights install is in full swing. Peter Bilitsis has done amazing work finding the right solution to gain brighter lighting while saving electricity costs in the main parking lot. New LED housing and lighting was purchased. Jim Contes had to machine each bracket so they can be secured to each poll. Peter, Jim, and Ted are in the process of changing out each light fixture. There are 29 lights to change out and it is a difficult process requiring a lift and boom to reach all of them. As you pass through our parking lot, please take a look at the newly installed lights. They are slim and give off a bright white light making our parking lot more visible and secure, not to mention energy saving. Thank you, Peter for all your hard work!

You may have noticed the grass around the community center and field is dead. Ted, Jim, Peter, Paul Katsenes, Jim Manelis, Adam Venetis, and John Katsaros have been working on a main line irrigation leak that was discovered. We are currently working on a solution to re-route a main line to the valves that control the watering around the Speros Center and field. We hope to complete this project in the next week or two so we can begin the watering process and green up our field and Speros Center grounds.

The last storm and rains exposed a leak in the Large Hall of the Speros Community Center roof, and broke a tree limb off the tree in front of our Cathedral. John Katsaros was able to cut and chip the broken branch immediately so it did not impede access to the Cathedral stairs. The leak in the Speros Center roof caused a significant amount of water to enter the Hall, and caused a ceiling tile to collapse causing a mess in the Hall. Thank you, Paul and Dimitri Valonis for cleaning up after the damage caused by the roof leak. We are working with the roofing company to fix the roof leak.

Adam Venetis has been working very hard maintaining our air conditioning systems in the Cathedral and the Education Building. This is no small task and we are very fortunate to have Adam working on our comfort.

Should you have time, talent or treasure to assist the maintenance committee in the work needed on our campus, please call Ted Furlis at 602-625-8835 or Peter Bilitsis at 602-317-7780.



Ted Furlis and Peter Bilitsis completed the permit-required No Parking Boxes painted lines at our entry and exit gates.

# Sunday School

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer and are ready to start our new Ecclesiastical year, I know Sunday school is! Our first day will be September 8th. Mark your calendars! Sunday School will be hosting Coffee Hour for the month of August and we will have Registration Forms available for you. They will also be available in the Narthex. Please fill one out for your family and children, you can return it to us during Coffee Hour or to the Church Office. We are also including the Registration Form in this issue of the Desert Springs that you can download and complete. It can be emailed to [kalliopischneider@gmail.com](mailto:kalliopischneider@gmail.com). The important thing is to bring your amazing children and join us for Sunday school! We feel so blessed to spend time with your children every week.

We finished last year in May on such a positive note with our first ever All Saints Camp (ASC) Scholarship. We were able to reward two students with outstanding attendance with a scholarship to camp. In our books, it is a win-win! Congratulations to Alexis and Zachary Venetis for the best attendance for the school year! I heard from quite a few that camp was awesome this year. But, it is always a blessed experience for the kids and the counselors! That is why we are going to continue our attendance scholarship program this year for grades 3-12. At the end of May 2020, we will review our attendance rosters for the year and award scholarships to both a boy and girl to attend ASC in 2020. So make sure you bring your children to Sunday school and sign in on your teacher's roster sheet that is in each classroom!

As always, with an exciting new year, it brings some exciting new faces! Jacky Walsh and Marcus Koumantzis will be teaching our 7th and 8th graders this year! Welcome back Jacky and welcome Marcus! Jacky was an awesome assistant to Kay Ehrick last year and has eagerly volunteered for the lead teacher position. After a summer at ASC and St. Nicholas ranch, she and Marcus want to continue their youth ministry with our 7th and 8th graders. We are so excited and blessed to have them! Jacky has been attending Holy Trinity for many years now and is married to Matthew Walsh who has been part of Holy Trinity since he was born. Marcus and his family have also been attending Holy Trinity for years. We are so pleased that he is joining our Sunday school ministry! What a great addition and great team!

But wait, there's more! Conner and Paloma Kruse are also joining our Sunday School team. Connor will be co-teaching our Youth Forum in the Chapel with Evan Tsagaris. Once again these awesome young adults have spent part of their summer at ASC and St. Nicholas Ranch and would like to continue their youth ministry with our high schoolers. Connor and Paloma come from Southern California. Connor worked at St. Katherine College and now they have relocated to Phoenix. We are so blessed to have them join our parish and get involved with our youth and Sunday school ministry!

Our classroom locations will remain the same as last year with the exception of the Youth Forum (High School/ 9-12), they will be in the Chapel following communion. All children will be in the Cathedral with their families for Divine Liturgy and will receive communion first. Following communion, the children then leave the Cathedral to go to their Sunday School classrooms. Your teachers will be in front of the church the first two Sundays to help steer your children in the right direction.

We will be led this year by our wonderful pastoral staff, Father Apostolos and our Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades. Upon meeting this summer, we laid out a plan for this year's curriculum that is Orthodox based. You will be able to take a look at the curriculum at our table on Ministry Sunday. Come visit us on September 8th for Sunday School and following Divine Liturgy in the Speros Community Center!

In Christ,  
Kalli Schneider  
Sunday School





# 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)

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)

**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](mailto:kalliopischneider@gmail.com). or at 602.568.3139  
**Thank you!**



# Save the Date!

Join us for a <b>GLENDI GALA</b>	<b>NOV 16</b>
COCKTAILS • MUSIC • DINNER • DANCING	<b>SATURDAY</b>

*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 [sandymoris@yahoo.com](mailto:sandymoris@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 will follow after lunch.

I have made arrangements to have as guest speaker, Magda Gryparis, Author of "The Village", The war and the occupation of Greece through the eyes of a four year-old. 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

Email: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com)

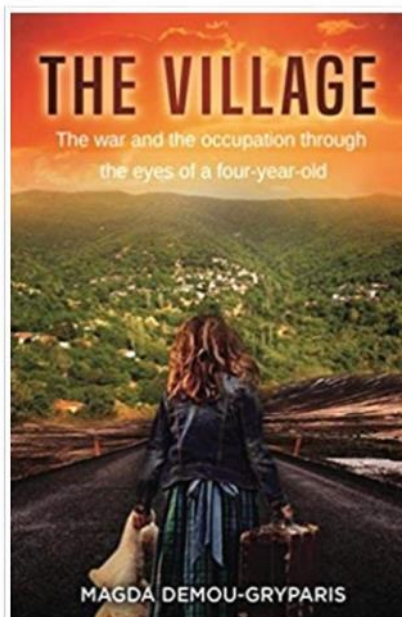
Cell: 623-313-8720 or

Judith LaMond

Cell: 703-819-9957

## 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

## Baptism

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

Galatians 3:27

07/28/2019

George P. Agnos,  
son of Peter & Sarah Agnos  
Godparents: Christ & Christine Agnos  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

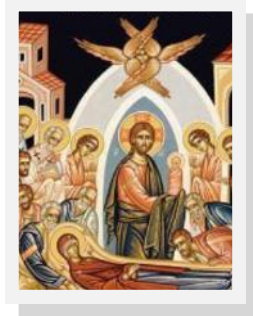


## Funeral

"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

07/03/2019

John Zoukis  
*May his memory be eternal.*

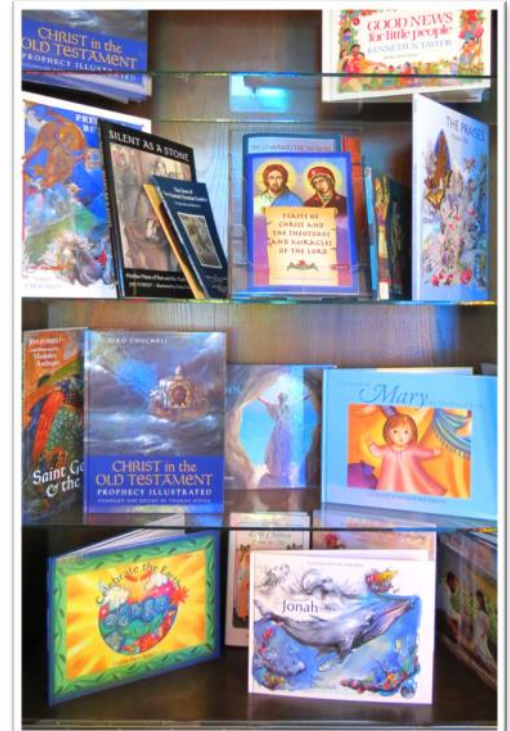


# Narthex Library

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@holyltrinityphx.org](mailto:AdminAssist@holyltrinityphx.org) and Kristen at [kvasilarakos@cox.net](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net).

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

*Thank you!*





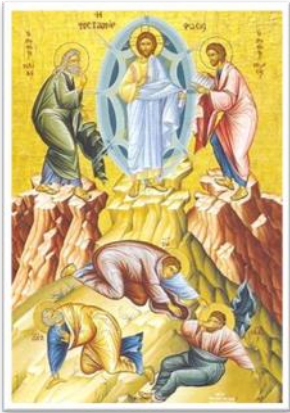
# St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Patsy Harris

August brings us to the end of the Ecclesiastical Year. As we look forward to the new beginning of the ecclesiastical cycle, the Church honors the Holy Theotokos, first with the fifteen-day fast and then with the commemoration of the Dormition.

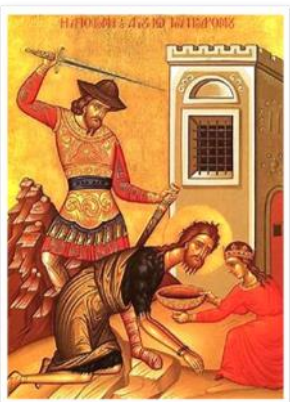
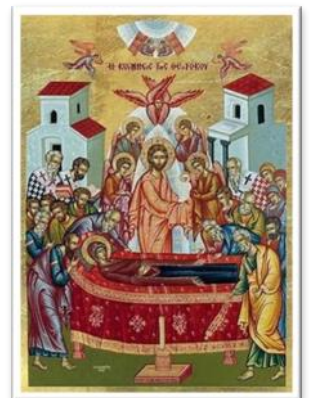
I am amazed (although not surprised) that yet again the wisdom of the Church is revealed by having this feast of the Mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ prepare us for the coming of the new year. Just as the Theotokos nurtured and guided Christ until He was ready for His ministry on Earth, we are now reminded by the many hymns of the Canons and Paraklesis services which relate to the life of the Theotokos of how we are loved and cared for and nurtured by God throughout our own lives, of how He is preparing us for Life Eternal with Him, if we allow Him to lead us. For as the Christ Child was obedient to His Holy Mother, and always to God the Father, so must we choose to be obedient to God our Father and our mother the Church.

## August Holy Days:



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

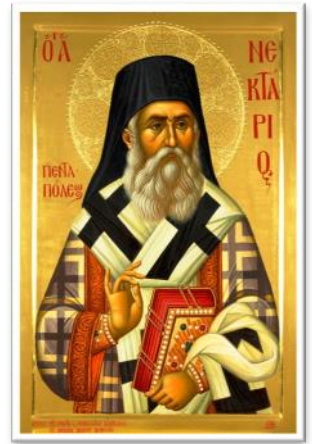
**August 15: Dormition of the Theotokos** – From the liturgical point of view, this is the most important of the feast days dedicated to the Holy Virgin. It is preceded by the two-week Lent of the Theotokos. Only in the Vespers and Matins is her death given reference; the Gospel and hymns of the Liturgy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



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

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

Contact us at: [www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org](http://www.stnectariosbooksandbeyond.org) or [patsy@stnectariosphx.org](mailto:patsy@stnectariosphx.org)  
Patsy Harris – (480) 239-5270



## 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](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net) for more information.

## Follow Holy Trinity Cathedral on Facebook

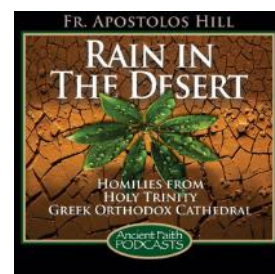
The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of many of our services.



## 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](http://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](#) and [Facebook](#) and through the links on the [website](#).



Subscribe and like us today

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



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

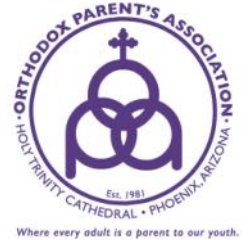
Luncheon provided & hosted by | OPA, Philoptophos & Daughters of Penelope

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

Gift Registry | [babylist.com](http://babylist.com)

# OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Paulina Watson, President



Hope & JOY and Jr. & Sr. GOYA!



## **Holy Trinity Ministry Kickoff Saturday, August 17, 5pm "Exult and be Glad!"**

Food and drink will be  
provided!

Contact Alexander Eliades for  
more info:

[aeliades@holytrinityphx.org](mailto:aeliades@holytrinityphx.org)



## Dance Practice Resumes SUNDAY, August 11, 2019

Click the link below to register or access forms.  
Fill forms out digitally & email OR print at home  
& submit in person.

Registration fee:

\$140 for the first child in a family, \$120 for the second, and \$100 for each additional sibling

Any questions: contact Niko Panagiotakopoulos  
[npanos01@yahoo.com](mailto:npanos01@yahoo.com) or 602-469-2039



Registration Link

## Dance Practice Schedule

Sunday, August 11 - 12:15pm - Practice  
Sunday, August 18 - 12:15pm - Practice  
Sunday, August 25 - 12:15pm - Practice

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](mailto:Cjecomom@gmail.com) or [cwkyprianou@hotmail.com](mailto: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!

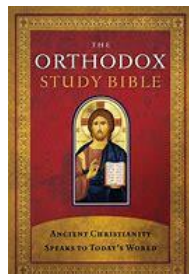
Coffee Hours will be Sundays: 1st, 15th, 22nd, & 29th



## Gifts to the Graduates

The Cathedral gifted Orthodox Study Bibles to each of the high school and college graduates.

Graduates: if you have not received yours yet, stop by the Bookstore.



## YAL at The Yard!

June 21, 2019



## 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  
More information coming!

## 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](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net) for more information.

Office use: Payment received on (date) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_



# All Saints Camp

Holy Trinity Cathedral represented well at this summer's All Saints Camp!



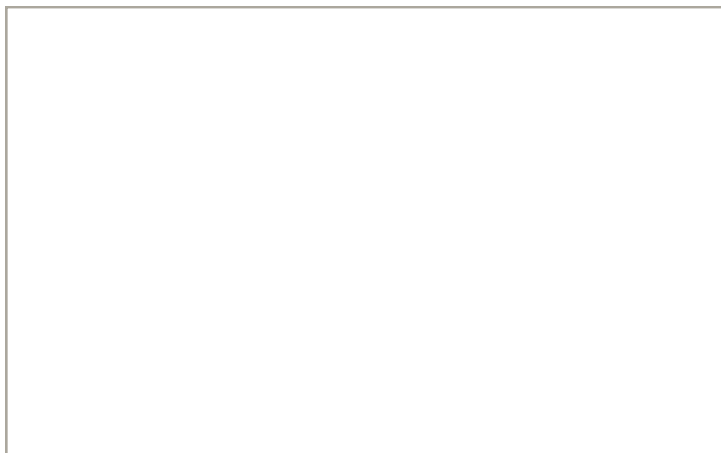
# AHEPA District Convention Hosted Comedian Basile!

June 8, 2019



# 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: \_\_\_\_\_