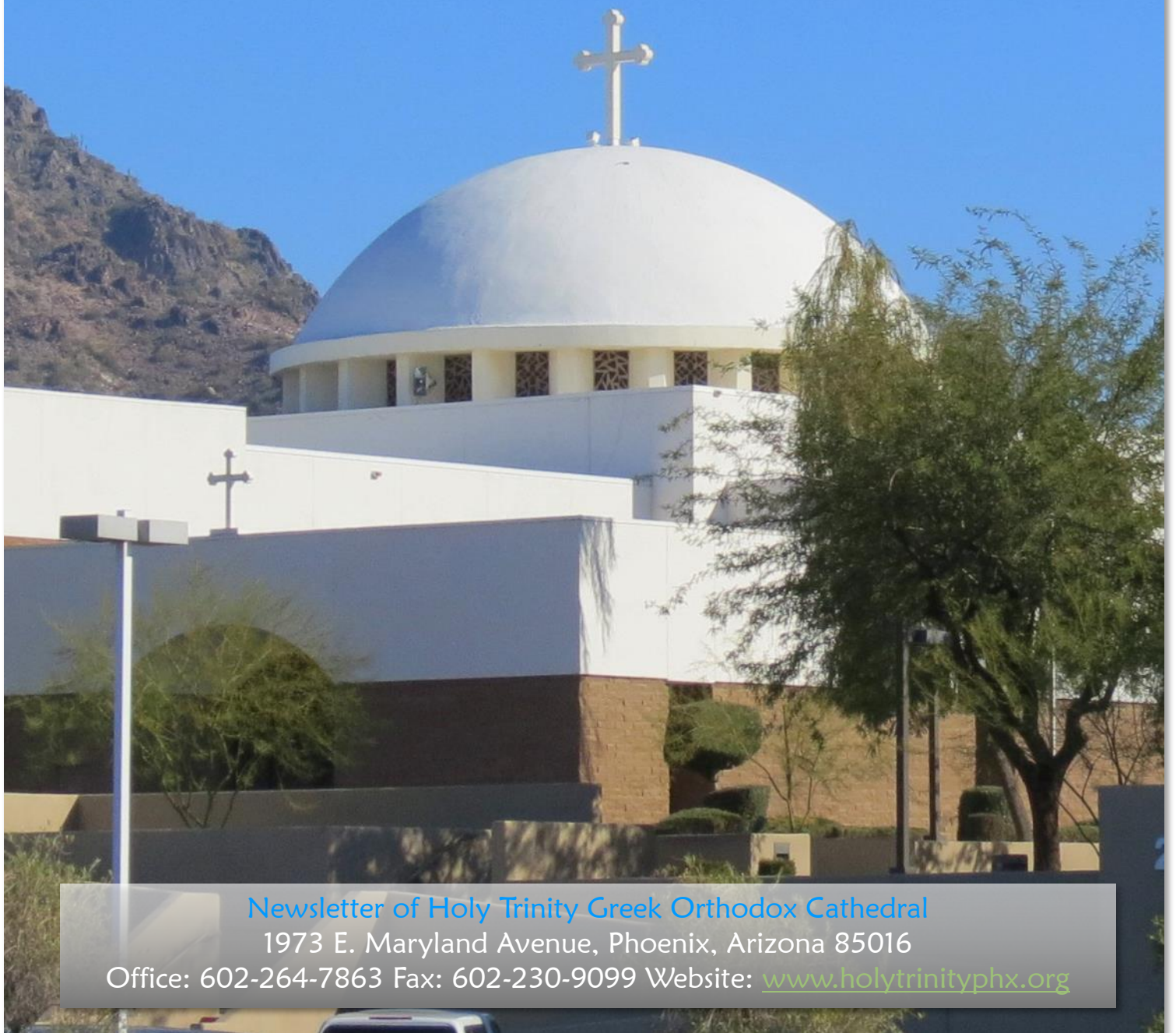


# Desert Springs

September 2020  
Volume 5 Issue 8



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](http://www.holytrinityphx.org)

**Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill**  
**Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades**  
**Rev. Deacon John Thrasher**

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

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

**Desert Springs Staff**  
Rev. Apostolos Hill,  
Theological Advisor/Editor-In-Chief  
Kristen Vasilarakos, Layout/Composition  
602-332-8809, [kvasilarakos@cox.net](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net)

**Desert Springs Deadline**  
The 25th of each month

**Sunday Bulletin Deadline**  
Wednesdays, 12 noon

**Church Office Email Addresses**  
Rev. Apostolos Hill  
[htpriest@holyltrinityphx.org](mailto:htpriest@holyltrinityphx.org)  
[papoulihill@gmail.com](mailto:papoulihill@gmail.com)

Pastoral Assistant Alexander Eliades  
[aelides@holyltrinityphx.org](mailto:aelides@holyltrinityphx.org)

Diana Camacho, Office Manager  
[AdminAssist@holyltrinityphx.org](mailto:AdminAssist@holyltrinityphx.org)

Church Front Desk  
[htfrontoffice@holyltrinityphx.org](mailto:htfrontoffice@holyltrinityphx.org)

Church Caretakers  
Terry, Paul, and Dimitri Valonis

Holy Trinity Bookstore  
[info@stnecariosphx.org](mailto:info@stnecariosphx.org)

**2019 Parish Council Members**  
Jim Manelis—President  
Paul Katsenes—Vice President  
Connie Contes—Treasurer  
Dina Anagnopoulos—Assistant Treasurer  
Andy Fourlis—Secretary  
Charlie De Moss, Sandy Meris,  
Socrates Papadopoulos,  
Adam Venetis

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

**Metropolis of San Francisco Website**  
[www.SanFran.goarch.org](http://www.SanFran.goarch.org)

**Archdiocese Website**  
[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

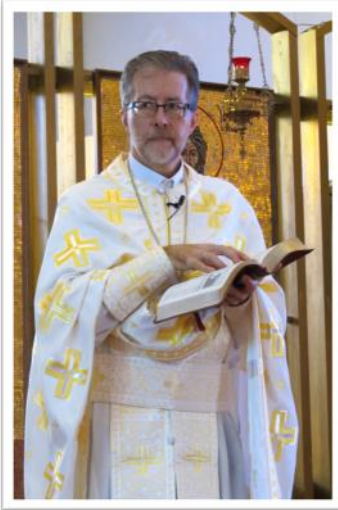
## Organization Contacts

- **AHEPA** — Col. Mike Torrealday: [tdayf16@cox.net](mailto:tdayf16@cox.net)
- **All Saints Camp** — Evan Tsagaris: [etsagaris89@gmail.com](mailto:etsagaris89@gmail.com)
- **Altar Servers** — Deacon John Thrasher, David Haag, Chris Francis: [thrasheraz@cox.net](mailto:thrasheraz@cox.net), [davidmhaag@yahoo.com](mailto:davidmhaag@yahoo.com), [battersbox7@yahoo.com](mailto:battersbox7@yahoo.com)
- **Bible Study** — Father Apostolos Hill: [papoulihill@gmail.com](mailto:papoulihill@gmail.com)
- **Bookstore** — Rita Papaspyrou: [rzakher@gmail.com](mailto:rzakher@gmail.com)
- **Byzantine Choir** — George Duvall: [phxchantor@cox.net](mailto:phxchantor@cox.net)
- **Choir** — Terri Alexon: [htphxmusicdirector@gmail.com](mailto:htphxmusicdirector@gmail.com)
- **Dance** — Niko Panagiotakopoulos: [npanos01@yahoo.com](mailto:npanos01@yahoo.com)
- **Daughters of Penelope** — Angie Lambrou: [angie.lambrou@cox.net](mailto:angie.lambrou@cox.net)
- **Desert Diamonds (50+)** — Julie Karoutas: [juliekaroutas@gmail.com](mailto:juliekaroutas@gmail.com)
- **Epistle Readers** — Presvytera Denise Hill: [denkevhill83@gmail.com](mailto:denkevhill83@gmail.com)
- **Family Wellness** — Lindsay Vardalos, Leah Venetis
- **Feed Those in Need** — Christine Stamatis: [cstamatis@cox.net](mailto:cstamatis@cox.net)
- **Greek Festival** — Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas: [niko.37@cox.net](mailto:niko.37@cox.net)
- **Greek School** — Irene Mackos: [irinie@gmail.com](mailto:irinie@gmail.com)
- **Hellenic Museum** — Bessie Hotis: call 602-953-1913
- **Holy Trinity Academy Parochial School** — Juli Pritsos: [julipritsos@holyltrinityacademyphx.org](mailto:julipritsos@holyltrinityacademyphx.org)
- **HOPE & JOY** — Nikki Forman: [ntheo426@hotmail.com](mailto:ntheo426@hotmail.com)
- **Little Lambs** — Angela Scopelianos: [angelagarozzo@gmail.com](mailto:angelagarozzo@gmail.com)
- **Maintenance** — Peter Bilitsis, Ted Fourlis: [htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com](mailto:htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com)
- **Myrrhbearers** — Stacey Beaty, Kathy Choukalas Tropea: [tropea5@q.com](mailto:tropea5@q.com)
- **Narthex Outreach** — Kristen Vasilarakos: [kvasilarakos@cox.net](mailto:kvasilarakos@cox.net)
- **OPA** — Paulina Watson, Dianna Scaccia: [paulinawatson25@gmail.com](mailto:paulinawatson25@gmail.com), [discaccia@gmail.com](mailto:discaccia@gmail.com)
- **Parish Council** — Jim Manelis: [jmanelis@aol.com](mailto:jmanelis@aol.com)
- **Philoptochos** — Alex Anagnopoulos: [aanagnopoulos2@msn.com](mailto:aanagnopoulos2@msn.com)
- **Safety & Security** — Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: [pkatsenes@cox.net](mailto:pkatsenes@cox.net)
- **Sons of Pericles** — Greg Vassiliou, Ted Fourlis: [sonsofpericles283@gmail.com](mailto:sonsofpericles283@gmail.com)
- **Jr. & Sr. GOYA** — Karla DeLord, Jacque Petroulakis: [kpdelord@msn.com](mailto:kpdelord@msn.com), [jacquepetro@icloud.com](mailto:jacquepetro@icloud.com)
- **Stewardship** — Sandy Meris: [sandymeris@yahoo.com](mailto:sandymeris@yahoo.com)
- **Sunday School** — Kalli Schneider: [kalliopischneider@gmail.com](mailto:kalliopischneider@gmail.com)
- **Wedding Coordinator** — Terri Alexon: [terrialexon@gmail.com](mailto:terrialexon@gmail.com)
- **YAL 19-29** — Elliot Staikos: text 717-682-0550
- **YAL 30-49** — Nick Papas: [npapas@yahoo.com](mailto:npapas@yahoo.com)



# Message from Father Apostolos

## Morning Prayers



As the COVID crisis emerged, I felt prompted to open a forum on Instagram Live for daily prayers and for short encouragements. My morning prayers include two small prayers from St. Philaret of Moscow and from the Holy Elders of the Optina Monastery; short prayers which contain simple and yet profound insights into the Life in Christ.

St. Philaret perfectly describes how ill-equipped we often feel when we approach God in prayer, writing: *"I know not what I ought to ask of You... for a cross I dare not ask, nor for consolation, I dare only to stand in Your presence."*

And the Optina Elders end their glowing prayer of perfect humility with this line: *"Guide my will and teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to suffer, to forgive and to love."* These twin statements bracket for us the essential meaning of the holy season of the Cross we now enter in this new month of September.

It is natural for us to imagine grandiose and heroic sacrifices when we encounter the Holy Cross of Christ. Our imaginations run to gripping accounts of the Holy Martyrs whose self-offering light the path that leads us to the Heavenly Kingdom. But the Way of the Cross for most of us will be far less dramatic and, hence, easily overlooked.

These last several months have thrown many challenges in our paths, some truly monumental as for those afflicted with the COVID virus, those whose lives were claimed by it and their family members who now grieve the untimely passing of their loved ones. Others have lost businesses and livelihoods and now struggle to provide for themselves and their families with roughly a third of Americans now unable to make rent or mortgage payments.

But for a great many of us, no such sacrifices have been asked. Our challenges have involved making smaller offerings; missing the Divine Services as our parishes were shuttered to help contain the virus' spread, adhering to and embracing the hygienic protocols established to thwart its rapid spread, and remaining home throughout various periods of curfews and lockdowns.

As St. Philaret's prayer records, we *"dare not ask for a cross,"* but we find ourselves bearing one anyway. Indeed, to be a follower of and a believer in Jesus Christ requires this. *"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me"* are the introductory words read over every living soul brought into the Orthodox Church through holy baptism and chrismation. A life without a cross is not a Christian life.

Yet we are gravely challenged in the hubris of our times and the voices which whisper to us that all suffering is bad and must be avoided and where shameless hucksters and false preachers delude the unwary with promises of cheap grace and a painless life filled with material abundance. Seduced by such illicit messages, we may find ourselves filled with bitterness and outrage when the unavoidable sufferings common to all of humanity appear.

And as the Optina Elders so eloquently pray, we too must ask God to "guide our will," and to "teach us

*Message continued on page 4*

*Desert Springs September 2020*

how to suffer" in the challenges which lie ahead as the various crises, of which the virus is only one, rake our landscape. Holy Scripture contains numerous encouragements and warnings that suffering cannot be avoided, as in Jesus' declaration, *"In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world."*

Only in the Light of the Cross can suffering become for us a means of redemption and salvation. Only by perceiving in the Holy Cross of Christ the dagger thrust into the earth which stabbed the heart of the kingdom of Hades can our "light, momentary afflictions" as St. Paul described them, be filled with light and joy and meaning.

How we experience whatever further sacrifices we may be called upon to make will depend upon the presence or absence of this "Cross mentality" in our hearts. With humility, patience, and contrition, our suffering can "produce within us far more eternal weight of glory," as St. Paul wrote.

Without this "Cross mentality" residing in our hearts, our unchallenged pride will blanch at the merest inconvenience as we descend into childish sloganeering, trumpeting our rights and blind to the suffering of others. But embraced with purity of heart, the Holy Cross of Christ is the weapon against which the forces of darkness cannot prevail.

We "dare not ask for a cross," but we can submit to carry the one assigned to us, confident that we do not carry it alone, but with the strength and grace of the One who carried His for the salvation of all.

**Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean**



## Light a Virtual Candle

[Light a Candle](#)



In this time more than ever we need prayer.  
For those not able to come to the Cathedral yet,  
we have set up this ability to light a candle virtually!

Please click the link above and follow the instructions.  
Enter your name and the names of those you wish prayed for  
in the PayPal "Notes" section,  
and Father Apostolos or Alexander  
will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

# Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



## STEWARDSHIP IS MORE THAN JUST FINANCIAL GIVING

### The New Ecclesiastical Year is the Best Time to Reconnect and Recommit

September is here and the summer months behind us. Kids are back in school, in some form or another, and though some people are still working from home, others have gone back to the office. Although we are able to attend Liturgy in person again, our ministries are still not authorized by the Metropolis to begin meeting and gathering at church yet.

But let us look to the future and remain hopeful! We are getting closer and closer to our ministries coming together in fellowship. And until that happens, the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year is always the best time to take stock, reconnect and recommit to the church.

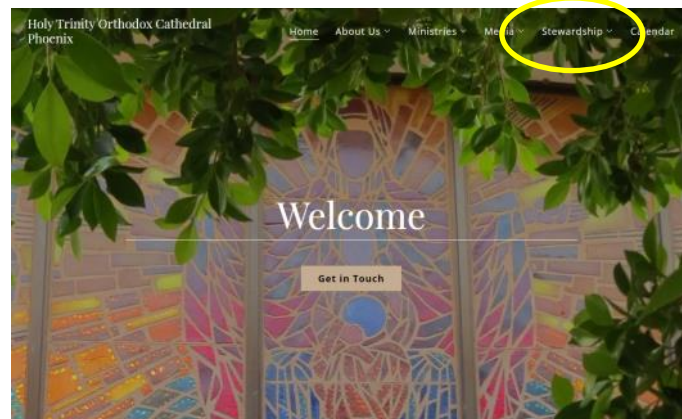
Have you given any thought to joining a new ministry? Part of stewardship and our commitment to the church does not end with placing a monetary donation in the offering tray on Sundays. Rather, that is only the beginning. We must all participate in the various ministries that answer God's calling to minister to the poor (Philoptochos) or spread the word (Sunday School), just to name a few.

And even though we are unable to host our annual Ministry Sunday, where each ministry hosts a table during Coffee Hour, allowing our parishioners to learn about and sign up to participate in our ministries, becoming a member and getting involved is still possible.

We encourage everyone to consider how we can all become more involved in our church ministries.

And if you still have not yet become a 2020 Steward, there is still time. Simply fill out your Pledge Card by going to: [www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org), click on "Stewardship" in the upper right-hand corner and fill out your card. And there is no better time to become an on-line giver by joining WeShare. Setting up these automated payments is quick and easy. Simply click on WeShare on the Church website and fill out the information. Become a 2020 Steward in good standing today!

Go to [www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org) and then click on **Stewardship**



# PARISH ASSEMBLY

Sunday, September 13, 2020

12:00 pm

All parishioners are invited to join us for a Parish Assembly meeting **via Zoom**. This is an informational meeting where we will discuss and share the current financial picture of the Cathedral, our ministries, Stewardship, Liturgical services and overall general state of our parish.

Please continue to watch your email as we will send out again the Powerpoint presentation document that will be discussed at the meeting. We will also include the instructions and log-in information to attend the meeting. Until then, we encourage you to download Zoom for free on your computer or device.

We urge all of our parishioners to join us for this important informational meeting. We hope to see everyone then.



# House of Stewards

Through 09/01/2020

Panagiota Agelakos  
Peter & Sarah Agnos  
Dorothy Ainslie  
Evan & Terri Alexon  
Nikki C. Anest  
Bettina Angelos  
John & Sandy Annos  
John Antoniadis  
Elaine Apostle  
Sheila Asala  
Chris & Angie Athens  
Helen & Constantine Balanis  
Diana Balos  
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis  
Alexandra Bates  
Scott & Stacey Beaty  
George & Stacy Benetos  
Vicki & Dan Bichakas  
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis  
Vasiliki Bilitsis  
Helen A. Bixenman  
Anthony Boyd  
Oscar & Heidi Bracamonte  
Helen & James Bruno  
Chris & Georgia Brusalis  
Chris & Rita Bruskas  
Kristen Bruskas  
Kathrene Carras  
Frank & Alice Carris  
Dawn & Casey Cartier  
Laurel Charnas-Schiller & Todd Schiller  
George & Alexandra Chondropoulos  
Harriet Chotras  
Jim Chotras  
Athena Choukalas  
Kim & Pete Choukalas  
Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke  
Martha Rose Columbus  
Andrew & Mara Contes  
Connie & James Contes  
Ed & Angie Cooper  
Jean & John Dal Pan  
Nick & Sharon Daniolos  
Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos  
Patty Davis  
Rebecca Davis  
Len & Elaine Debickero  
Hercules Alexander Dellas  
Patrick & Karla Delord  
Joanne Demangus  
Tom & Irene Demas  
John & Mary Demetropoulos  
Bill C. DeMoss  
Charles C. DeMoss  
Chris DeMoss  
John & Marjorie DeMoss  
Michael & Maureen DeMoss  
Ruth & Basil Denaxas  
Alexandros & Erika Dimitriadis  
Homer & Doree Drakos

Stanley & Fran Drozd  
Denise Dye  
Caroline & Kostas Economopoulos  
Dena & Christos Economopoulos  
James Elam & Lisa Glitsos Elam  
Alexander & Laura Eliades  
Ed & Katherine Fancher  
Jeff & Judy Farr  
Greg Hernandez  
Helen Fernandez  
Athanasia & Georgia Fourlis  
Ted & Andi Fourlis  
Tim & Antonette Fraenkel  
Georgana Frieh  
George & Julie Froumis  
Chris & Catherine Frye  
Niki Ganolis  
Demetra Georgelos  
Diana Georgelos  
Pamela Georgelos  
Dinos & Koula Georges  
Andreanna Georgiou  
Christina & Thomas Georgiou  
John Giannopoulos  
Constantine & Kristen Ginakes  
John & Polly Ginakes  
Stella Glitsos  
Jeremy & Athena Gonzales  
Eva Goodman  
Bill & Lynn Graham  
Gina Graham  
Mary Haidos  
Donald Hall  
Terry G. Harper  
Patsy Harris  
Stephanie & Gregory Heckel  
Gregory Hill  
Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill  
Bessie Hotis  
Pavlos Kairis  
Linda & James Kalivas  
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos  
Roula & Basilis Kaneris  
Dena & Nick Kantaros  
Jean Kantaros & William King  
William & Harriet Kapolas  
Christina Karalekas  
Virginia S. Karegeannes  
Julie Karoutas  
James & Joann Karros  
Leonidas & Fotini Katrakis  
Christos & Kelley Katsanos  
Niki & George Katsaros  
Mary & John Katsenes  
Lori & Paul Katsenes  
Thomas Katsenes  
Helen Katsuftrakis  
Poppy & Jim Kavouris  
Fanny Kechajias  
Cathy Keyser



Virginia & Ronald Kidd  
Emily Kimmell  
Maria Kompos  
Spiros & Maria Kontakis  
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros  
Angela & Dean Koumontzis  
Nikolas Koziris  
Elizabeth & Johnny Kratsas  
Nick & Marina Kretsedemas  
Tammy Kretsedemas  
James & JoAnne Kruljac  
Debbie Kunkel  
Andreas & Cindy Kyprianou  
Tassie Ladas  
Anastasia Laitsas  
John & Angie Lambrou  
Judith Lamond  
Mary & Elias Lamos  
Mary Levendi  
Lea & Mike Linaris  
Gregory Lizanich  
Efterpi Lourias  
Stephanie & James Machas  
Maria & Martin Maciejewski  
Daniel MacInnis  
Aristotle & Evelyne Macrodimitris  
Marika Makridis  
Margarita Makris  
Julie & Felix Mamani  
Donna & Jim Manelis  
Bette Maniatis  
Maria Maniatis  
Anna Manos  
Rina & William Marinakos  
Douglas & Anna Markakis  
Leonard & Mary Lou Mastorakos  
Steve & Mari Mastorakos  
Katerina Matheos  
Stefan D. Matheos  
Nick Maydanis  
Pamela Maydanis  
Peter & Chriss Maydanis  
Angela & Chris Mead

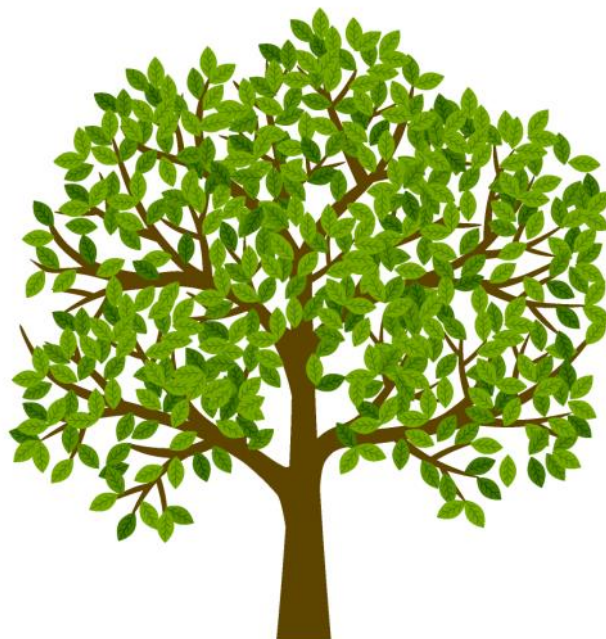
# House of Stewards

Continued from page 7

Joanne Meris  
Sandy & Will Meris  
Anthony & Tania Miaoulis  
Angie Miller  
Jean & William Miller  
Paul N. Miller  
Andrew Mitchell  
Helen & Philip Mitchell  
Spyro & Effie Mousses  
William & Hannah Neal  
Matthew & Sophia Neumann  
Jerry & Kathy New  
Edna Nicely & Peter Michas  
John & Maria Nicholas  
Evelyn Nickalew  
Anthony Nicoluzakis  
AnnaMarie Nieblas  
Angelo & Marta Ntatsos  
Jeremy & Anastasia Oxley  
Else Paletsos  
Elizabeth Palmer  
Alexander & Alexia Panagiotakopoulos  
Christo & Connie Panagiotakopoulos  
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou  
Sofia Panagiotoglou  
Bill & Soula Papadopoulos  
Chrysoula & George Papadopoulos  
Stephanie & Socrates Papadopoulos  
Anastasia Papaioannou  
Alex & Olga Papamatheakis  
Betty Papas  
Nicholas J. Papas  
Rita & Spyros Papaspyrou  
Nicholas & Stacy Papatzimas  
Vassilia Papatzimas  
Angeline Pappas  
Irene Pappas  
John J. & Andrea M. Pappas  
Daniel & Anna Pardhe  
Athena Parmenter  
Amy Paul  
Christiana Paviet  
Katherine & Kai-Henning Pedersen  
Dina & John Pesognelli  
Fotini & Dean Pestrivas  
Zoe Pestrivas  
Kathy & Bill Petsas  
Nicholas & Laurel Petsas  
Michael & TeAnn Philippis  
Brian & Athena Pickett  
Georgia Pikoula  
Mary & Andreas Poulakidas  
Kay & George Poulos  
Panagiotes & Anthipe Pries  
Chris & Juli Pritsos  
Nicole & David Pyle  
Bertha Quinn  
Lydia Rabbitt  
Cal & Angela Raup  
Alex & Rose Rentzis

Milton & Voula Rentzis  
Maria & Curt Ruttle  
Lois Sakkas  
Dimitra & James Sampson  
Paul Sarantes  
John Schneider  
Warren & Kalli Schneider  
Diane Sedlacek  
Chris & Terry Seretis  
George & Traci Sgouros  
John Siavelis  
Elyse Sioles  
Robert & Donna Sioles  
Evi & George Skintzis  
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis  
John Jr. & Toni Smirniotis  
Constantin Solomon  
Pam & Jim Solomon  
Carol Sowers  
Angelo & Marie Spanos  
Rachel & Leo Speliopoulos  
James & Christina Speros  
Elias & Theodora Staikos  
Kathryn & Jim Stamadianos  
Nitsa & Gerry Stamatelatos  
Christine & Andrew Stamatis  
Mihai Sutu  
Tony Tangelos  
Despina Tavlarides  
William & Rebecca Tavlarides  
Nick & Effie Theodore  
Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos  
Jim G. Thomas  
John & Teresa Thomas  
Dcn. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher  
Kathy & Thad Tropea  
Stella & Constantine Tsantilas  
Dimitrios Tsioutsopoulos

Katherine & Constantine Tzavaras  
Daniel Valenzuela  
Peter & Lindsay Vardalos  
Kristen Vasilarakos  
Argyro Vasquez  
Adam & Lea Venetis  
Connie & George Venetis  
Stephanie Venetis  
Peter & Maria Vlahos  
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis  
Steve & Mary Vrahas  
Nicole Wakamatsu  
Ken & Angela Walker  
Catherine Wallerich  
Jaclyn & Matthew Walsh  
Paula & Colin Walsh  
Paulina & Doug Watson  
Garrett Widner  
Dennis & Rose Wolfe  
Christina & Michael Wombacher  
Richard & Katina Wood  
Niki & George Zafiraki  
Anthony & Karen Zaman  
Eugenia & Dimitrios Zannis  
Katherine & George Zannis  
Zella Zannis  
Evangelia Zikos  
Kostas & Margarita Zistas  
Christina & Michael Zistatsis  
Eleanna Zistatsis  
Dimitrios Zistatsis  
Ann Zoukis





# Endowment Fund

## ✝ THE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT FUND ✝

The Holy Trinity Endowment Fund was established in 1992 with an initial deposit of \$2,000. The goal was to build the Endowment Fund whereby the interest and appreciation would one day provide sufficient income so Holy Trinity would no longer be totally dependent on an annual festival to supplement stewardship income.

The Endowment Fund is obligated to preserve the donor's contributions such that the principal will remain inviolable and be held in perpetuity by the Church. The funds are prudently managed by the investment committee, which reports to the Parish Council. The investment committee only approves withdrawals from the earnings and appreciation, over and above the donor's contributions, and are used only to benefit Holy Trinity and its ministries.

Over the course of the past twenty-seven years the committee has held steadfast to this mission, and as a result, generous donors from our Church, desiring to leave a legacy in perpetuity for their family, have made contributions totaling \$562,000.

**This is your opportunity to put your lifetime thumbprint in the history of Holy Trinity Cathedral.**

We have been blessed by the generosity and foresight of the individuals and families listed below. We benefit today from their kindness and vision. If your circumstances allow you to give a gift above and beyond your annual stewardship commitment, then please take this occasion to join the others in creating a legacy by pledging your gift to Holy Trinity Cathedral's perpetual Endowment Fund. Gifts of \$10,000 or more will be separately listed along with others who have reached that level.

**Your gift, no matter the amount will be combined into the general endowment fund, and will be greatly appreciated.**

### Endowment gifts over \$10,000

Gabriel N. & Helen H. Papagallos  
The DeMoss Families  
IMO+ Mary Montague  
IMO+ John G. Zannaras  
Steve & Judith Vrahas  
Ange & Alex J. Pappas

Faye Boukas  
Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry  
George & Koula Cheros  
IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis  
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes  
John & Mary Katsenes

George & Ann Souvall  
IMO+ Tasia Pritchard  
John George Thomas  
Steve & Joan Vrahas  
James & Connie Coin Contes

### Endowment Fund donations over \$1,000

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss

### In Memory gifts over \$1,000

IMO+ Stacy Hotis  
IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlarides  
IMO+ Athena Choukalas  
IMO+ Chris Gabriel  
IMO+ Milton & Harriett Sioles

IMO+ Danny Speros  
IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos  
IMO+ Dr. Hugo Rangel  
IMO+ Koula Triantafyllou

IMO+ Mark Sprintz  
IMO+ Tom Contes  
IMO+ John Sgouros  
IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniares

# Endowment Fund

## GIFT DONATION FORM

Please list my endowment gift as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

Here is my Endowment gift, which I may add to, of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to include the Holy Trinity Endowment fund in my  
Will\_\_\_\_, my Living Trust\_\_\_\_, or TOD\* \_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor, please sign and keep a copy for your records

\*TOD = transfer on death

*All gifts will be preserved in the archives of Holy Trinity Cathedral*

Gifts of \$10,000 or more may be made over a three year period.

*Thank You, and + God Bless You + for your generosity.*  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral + 1973 E Maryland Phoenix AZ 85016

## Demonstrating Making the Cross

on Instagram during an afternoon lesson



Screenshots by Gina Graham

The daily 3:00pm Instagram sessions return on 09/08/2020!

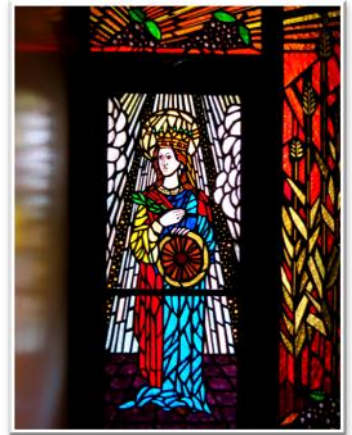
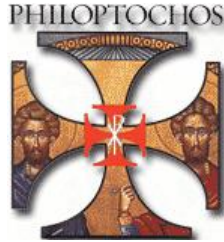
# Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, 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.

**The September Meeting is on Thursday, September 3, 2020.**

**The meeting will be by ZOOM, with the ability to CALL IN BY PHONE if you do not have a computer or do not want to log into the virtual meeting.**

If you have questions on HOW to participate, please contact Kristen Vasilarakos at 602-332-8809 as soon as possible.

Interested in participating? Contact Alex Anagnopoulos at 602-738-6053 for more information.

## JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2020—2021

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

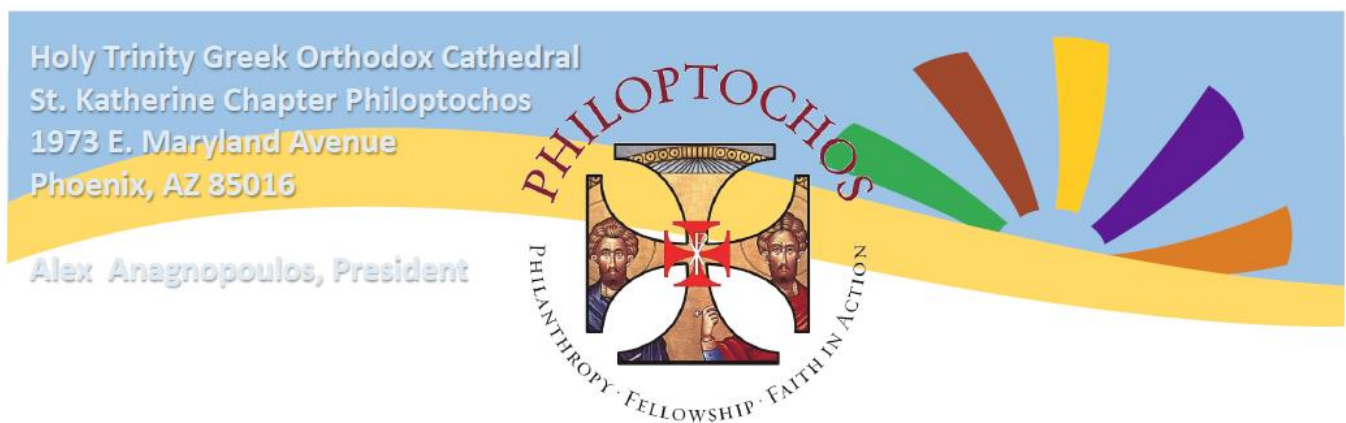
\$15 will be sent to the Archdiocese and \$15 to the Metropolis. **Any amount over \$30 will be retained for our chapter charities and obligations.**

Mail your membership to:

St. Katherine's Philoptochos of HTC Membership 2019, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016



# Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos Project



**Holy Trinity Cathedral's Philoptochos** has taken on a *local* challenge:  
assisting with stocking supplies for an elementary school in need in our 85016 zip code.

The school is online through at least October, but there is a vital need for teachers and staff to ready students for both at-home learning and the eventual return to the classroom.

*To start*, we have narrowed down donations to these categories:

- **Hand Sanitizer**—any size bottles
- **Pencils, colored pencils, and crayons** to fill 36 small shoe box-sized containers
- **Non-Perishable Snack Foods** in individual-sized packaging  
(Expiration dates must be at least 2021)  
Examples: fruit bars, fruit or gelatin cups, applesauce cups, pretzels, cracker sandwiches, cheese & cracker/pretzel combo
- **Backpack FILL-UP!** 60 backpacks were donated—let's fill each with basic school items!  
Examples: variety of paper, notebooks, binders, scissors, erasers, glue, **child masks**
- **Cash contributions** to purchase the above items



Collection points: Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Sprouts Parking Lot, 16th Street and Glendale Avenue—look for the signs!

Saturday, September 19, 2020 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Sprouts Parking Lot, 16th Street and Glendale Avenue—look for the signs!

Sundays through September 27, 2020, outside the Narthex

Liturgical Services will continue to be live streamed  
by Father Apostolos and Alexander until further notice.

### LIVE-STREAMING INSTRUCTIONS

If you have Facebook, "Like" our Facebook page [Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral - Phoenix, AZ](#)  
You will receive updates when we are live.

If you DO NOT have Facebook, go to [holytrinityphx.org](http://holytrinityphx.org) and follow the instructions on the home page.

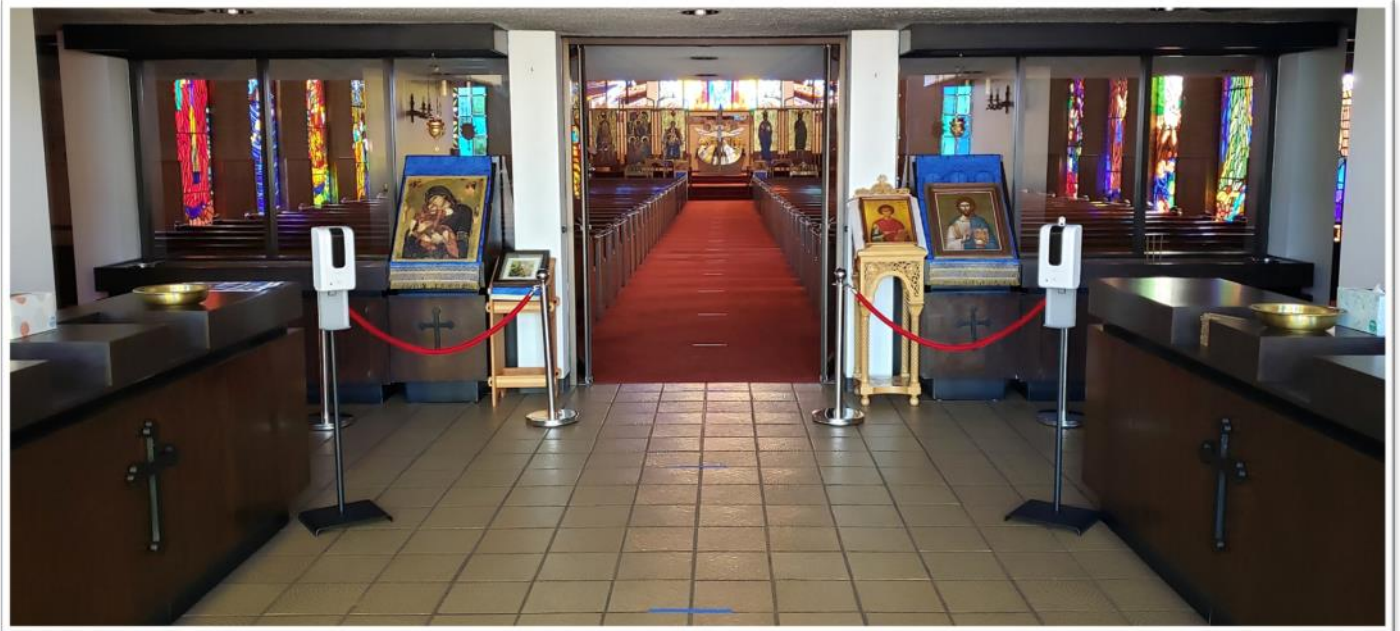


Photo by Paul Valonis

## Desert Springs Issues Available to Our Seniors

or the computer-challenged!

In an effort to reach our whole Parish Community with Cathedral news, issues of the Desert Springs will be available for FREE to those in our community who do not own or use a computer, tablet, or smart phone or would prefer to read the news in hard-copy print. Submit names to the Church Office or call or text Kristen at 602-332-8809.

### *Desert Springs* Subscription

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to the Church Office or  
contact Kristen at 602-332-8809

# 09/01/2020 Updates

Beloved Holy Trinity Family,

## HOLY COMMUNION

What a joy it was to see those of you who partook of Holy Communion last Sunday at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy! How much taller our young ones have grown since mid-March! The process went very smoothly and it was an emotional experience simply to be together again after so long an exile!



## EXPANDING TO 75 ATTENDEES FOR LITURGY

Beginning Sunday, September 6th we are permitted to have 75 parishioners attend Divine Liturgy. *We cannot stress enough the importance of registering to attend services.* Please click on the link below and fill out the required information.

In order for us to be able to remain open, we all must adhere to and follow the guidelines set forth such as:

- \* Registering and filling out the requested information
- \* Wearing a mask upon entering the Cathedral
- \* Using hand sanitizer
- \* Remain six feet apart from others
- \* Only sit with those living in your household

**SIGN UP HERE:** <https://forms.gle/iafC8e7FV559ZDcN8>

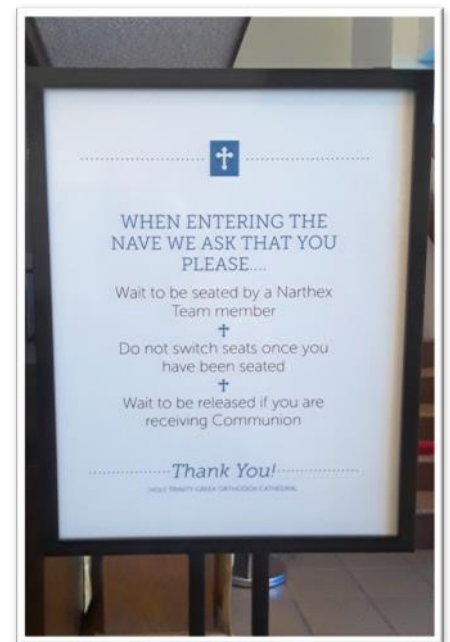
## PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

Please join us for an Informational Parish Assembly on Sunday, September 13th at 12:00pm.

This meeting will be held via Zoom. **Please watch for additional emails** forthcoming with the PowerPoint document that will be discussed at the meeting. In addition, we will provide log-in instructions to attend the meeting.

See you Sunday!

Rev. Father Apostolos Hill | Dean





# Music Ministry

Terri Alexon, Director

*Praise the Lord! Praise Him in His sanctuary, praise Him in His mighty Heavens.  
Psalm 150:1*

Even though there were a limited number of the faithful, it was wonderful being able to witness the offering of the Eucharist and reopening of the physical building at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral!

In keeping in touch with choir members, I have learned how much each person misses being able to fully participate in the Divine Liturgy as a congregation. Indeed, it feels like we have been in exile!

Once such individual who is anxiously awaiting a return of the Cathedral Choir is longtime member Mary Louise Theodoropoulos.

Mary Louise was born and raised in Phoenix with her parents being one of the original founders of our beloved Cathedral. As a teenager, she joined the Cathedral Choir and eventually settled in as a dedicated alto singer ever since.



Besides the Choir, Mary Louise has fulfilled many important roles at our Cathedral. Some of her most notable contributions include serving on the Parish Council, being President of Philoptochos for many years as well as being one of the founders of O.P.A. (Orthodox Parents Association). And at the Greater Phoenix Greek Festival, Mary Louise is a fixture at the t-shirt booth.

When she's not working at the church, Mary Louise can found playing board games, especially cards. One of Mary Louise's daughters, Sandy Meris, goes on to say: "Besides the Church and Choir, my mom's greatest love is her family." As a mother of three children, Mary Louise ushered them to various school sports and activities, including church, and she continues that dedication to family with her five grandchildren.

Finally, while raising a family and being active at the Cathedral, Mary Louise found time to become a tremendous cook, making from scratch meatballs, baklava, pastisio and other dishes for the family restaurant, J.P. McGurkee's Italian Kitchen of Phoenix, along side her husband of 52 years, Gus. She is most famous, however, for her delicious Greek salad dressing. Hmmm. Wish we could bottle it!

On behalf of the Cathedral Choir, we look forward to seeing everyone again without masks and singing during Divine Liturgy some time in the not-so-distant future. Until then, Κύριε Ελείσον!





# Father on Instagram





# St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

By Rita Papaspyrou

## The month of September gives us the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Commemorated on September 14



The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it.

The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.





# Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director  
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher



Holy Trinity Greek  
&  
Heritage School of Phoenix

## ZOOM'ing through Greece



### FAMILY CULTURAL NIGHT

Get your passports ready and join the Greek School every third Wednesday of the month for a fun family adventure to Greece. The 2-hour trip will include a family cooking class, arts and crafts with a cultural lesson, all through ZOOM. A special package with essentials (mason jar of dry ingredients/recipe/craft materials) will be delivered to each child, monthly.

**8 Greek Adventures**

**Cost: \$150 per family**

**Please contact for more information**

**Irene Dartoozos-Mackos**

**Phxgreeksschool@gmail.com**



**YIAYIA'S  
GREEK KITCHEN**

# Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director  
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher

REGISTER BY AUGUST 15, 2020

Contact [PHXGreekschool@gmail.com](mailto:PHXGreekschool@gmail.com)

Hello ZOOM'ing through Greece Parents!

Gabby and I are excited about teaching this year's curriculum! We have some creative and fun activities in store. Each month your child will receive a package from us.

Please fill out the attached registration form and return by August 15, 2020. A check can be mailed to me or given to Gabby or me on our 1st delivery!

Hope to receive your form soon.

Best regards,  
Irene and Gabby

## INTERACTIVE

Fall Greek School will include 10 language classes and 4 cultural classes starting September 9<sup>th</sup> via ZOOM. Spring semester, 12 language and 4 cultural, will be re-evaluated in January.



## Contact

Irene Dartoozos-Mackos,  
Volunteer Greek School Director  
[Phxgreekschool@gmail.com](mailto:Phxgreekschool@gmail.com)

## GREEK SCHOOL

### ZOOM'ING THROUGH GREECE

**STARTS  
SEPTEMBER 9TH**



## Cultural Classes

Get your passports ready every third Wednesday a fun family adventure to Greece. The 2-hour trip will include a family cooking class, arts and crafts and cultural lesson, all through ZOOM. A special package with essentials



# Our Church Family

## 40 Day Blessings

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



08/08/2020

Aidan Derick, son of  
Angela & Kenneth Walker  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

08/16/2020

William Nicholas, son of  
Laurel & Nicholas Petsas  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

## Baptism

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



08/08/2020

Aiden Derick Walker  
Sponsors: Despina Tavlarides  
& Theodore Tavlarides  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

## Chrismations

07/23/2020

Hannah Neal  
Sponsor: Angie Cooper  
*God's Blessings be upon her.*

08/30/2020

Angela Scopelianos  
Sponsor: Margaret Scopelianos  
*God's Blessings be upon her.*

08/30/2020

Alexander Harding  
Sponsor: Stanley Pappas  
*God's Blessings be upon him.*

# Our Church Family

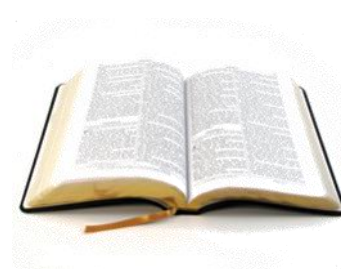
## Funeral

"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

08/04/2020

Mason Alexander Rodriguez  
*May his memory be eternal.*



## 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.

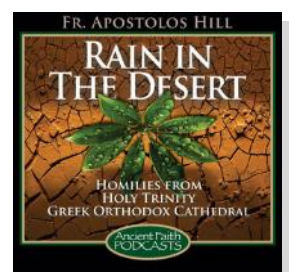


## Rain In The Desert

Link to recordings of Father's  
sermons: [http://](http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain)

[www.ancientfaith.com/](http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain)  
[podcasts/rain](http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/rain)

Sermons can also be found  
on the Cathedral website at  
[www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org).





# Holy Trinity Academy

Juli Pritsos, Director

## My Wish for You

*My Sweet Littles,*

*My wish for you is joy and love, kindness and patience too. You are smart and amazing and can be anything you want if you try and work hard. Remember your talents and tools to succeed as you grow into Middles and then off to Bigs. May your path be true and know that you are truly in my heart today, tomorrow and always.*

*With all my love,  
Mrs. Juli*



## Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners  
and their guests



Dear Desert Diamonds  
and Friends,

*See you soon!*

With Christ's love,

Julie Karoutas

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

cell: 623-313-8720 call or text

## Maintenance Corner

Questions?

Have items to donate?

Want to volunteer your time?



Contact:

Ted Furlis

Peter Bilitsis

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Maintenance Committee

602-625-8835

[htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com](mailto:htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com)

## Holy Trinity Sunday School

is looking for parents and young adults to teach our youth when Sunday School resumes. This is a great opportunity to ensure our youth grow up knowing their Orthodox faith.

If interested, please contact  
Kalli Schneider:

[kalliopischneider@gmail.com](mailto:kalliopischneider@gmail.com)



# AHEPA Chapter 219



## OUR NEXT MEETING

---

PENDING HEALTH DIRECTIVES

---

**Thursday**  
**September 17**  
**6:30 pm**

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL  
JAMES A SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER  
1973 E. MARYLAND AVE.  
PHOENIX, AZ

**INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP? CONTACT**  
**STEVE LEMERE**  
**770-990-6825**

# OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Dianna Scaccia, Co-President

Paulina Watson, Co-President



Are you getting the weekly  
OPA Newsletter?

OPA communicates primarily through email,  
via our email newsletter.

To stay informed on all of the  
youth, parent, and family happenings at Holy Trinity,  
sign up today.

It's easy, just email your information  
[ciecomom@gmail.com](mailto:ciecomom@gmail.com),  
and we'll get you added to list!

Paulina Watson

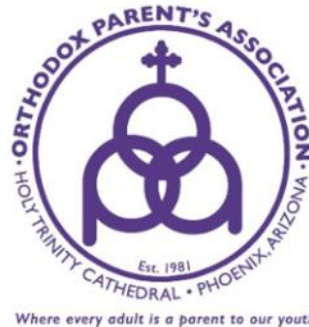
602-740-9350

[Paulinawatson25@gmail.com](mailto:Paulinawatson25@gmail.com)

Dianna Scaccia

602-323-4615

[discaccia@gmail.com](mailto:discaccia@gmail.com)



Want to get involved?  
The Little Lambs Youth Group  
is looking for an energetic parent or young adult  
that would like to assist for the  
2020-21 Activity Year.

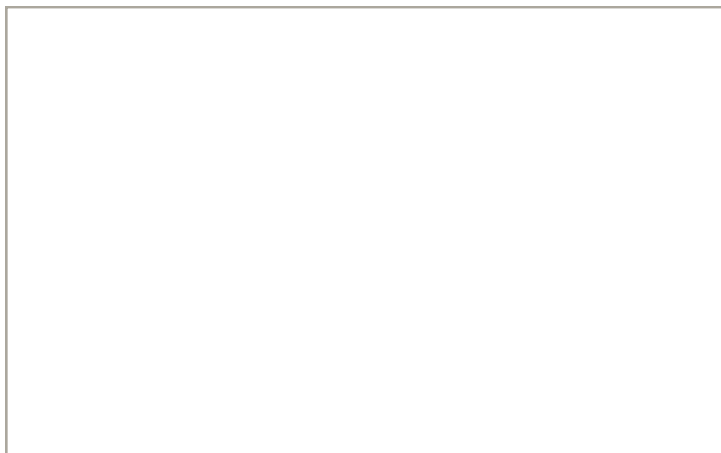
Little Lambs Group = newborns to Kindergarten

If interested, please contact Angela Scopelianos  
[angelagarozzo@gmail.com](mailto:angelagarozzo@gmail.com) or (913) 638-5991



# 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_