Sharing the Love

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

I pray the beginning of the 3rd month of 2021 finds you well. We love you and miss you! We’ve been saddened not to be able to have our usual robust ministry schedule with traditional Sunday School, Youth Groups, Dance, and Greek School and have our campus bustling with you and your children. We are working on a plan to be able to get some in-person group settings created in a safe manner, even if it is conversations around a bonfire outside! I’m sure you know this more than anyone but our youth need to see one another in person, for the last year their lives have been torn from all normalcy and they cannot even socialize with their peers to cope.

Here is where I will make an appeal to you.

**Come to church.**

For every reason you can imagine, come to church.

On the surface level, here at Holy Trinity is one of the only places they still can come together and physically see their friends and peers. After Liturgy on Sunday we have a short Sunday School lesson which is split up into grade levels depending on how many we see from each level. After this, they would be able to go outside and just talk and be with one another, something that hasn’t been able to happen in many places for almost a year. Come so they can see one another. Simply, come to church.

On a deeper level, we can’t begin to know the emotional toll this has taken on them. It’s a wound that can be healed by God and each other. Your responsibility as Orthodox Christian parents is to rear them in the faith. It’s often difficult in our society to speak about God to our children because of our own lack of knowledge or even doubts in faith. If you haven’t before, just pray as a family. Pray and pour out your worries to Him and come together as a family before God. Say the Our Father, whatever prayer you know, and ask for God’s help. If you want more help in doing this, please reach out to me or Fr. Apostolos, we’re here to help you specifically in this!

Finally, this last year has been a reckoning for our lives. What do we find important? What do we prioritize? I hope you’ve asked the question, “why do I go to church?” I hope you have grappled with this question in your home and hold it in tension, not throwing it away because of its uncomfortability. No growth in faith or in life happens without pain or tension and when we begin to ask ourselves why, we begin to grow.

We understand some of you do indeed have conditions in your family that would make contracting the virus a possibly lethal thing and we love you and hope to see you soon when you feel it safe for your situation. Continue to pray and be as engaged as you can.

However, if we find ourselves going out in settings that have large amounts of people but not considering church, it is time to ask ourselves why. The answer our Lord gives is, “come and see.” Come and see your beloved home of Holy Trinity. We await you with open, excited, and loving arms (while maintaining our distance and proper protocols!).

May we all be united in Christ.

With love in Christ,

Father Alexander Eliades
LET’S MAKE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL THE “COMEBACK” STORY OF 2021
Covid may have emptied our pews but we are slowly coming back

Alex Smith was a star NFL quarterback when he suffered a terrible leg injury during a game. Doctors told him not only would he never see another snap in a game, he would probably never walk again either. Two years, 17 surgeries and thousands of hours of excruciating rehabilitation later, he is back playing for the NFL.

Walt Disney is one of the most iconic names in modern culture after creating an empire that includes theme parks around the world and one of the largest and most successful television and movie studios in the world. But this came only after creating several failed companies and filing for bankruptcy in 1920.

Bethany Hamilton became a professional surfer as a teenager winning national and international surf competitions and entertaining lucrative sponsorship opportunities. With a bright future looming, in 2003 she was attacked by a shark while surfing and lost her left arm. She tapped into her strong Christian faith, re-designed her surfboard to accommodate her handicap, trained, worked out and fought her way back to returning to competitive surfing.

There are millions of great comeback stories. People, companies, organizations who suffered terrible setbacks that could have destroyed them. But with perseverance, grit, hard work and digging into their faith, they defied the odds and came back to find success.

Covid has been a setback for all of us. Including our beloved Holy Trinity Cathedral. Our pews were emptied, our ministries shut down, and our church family separated. But this does not have to be the final and permanent chapter. We can come back together to make 2021 Holy Trinity’s “Comeback” year. Coming back to Liturgy, coming back to in person ministry meetings and gatherings, coming back to coffee hour and youth group activities. We understand the comeback will be in degrees as the Covid numbers decrease and people feel more comfortable and as many get their vaccines.

And even though many of us may have found another routine on Sunday mornings that hasn’t involved Liturgy, we are urging you to consider “coming back” to church as you feel ready to do so. Slowly our church lives will be returning to normal including Altar Boys in the Altar, dance practice after church, the choir in the lofts, kids in Sunday School, Philoptochos events, Ahepa meetings and the like.

And so we on the Stewardship Committee, Parish Council and clergy are committed to improving our parish life. We want to hear from you...

- Do you feel like there isn’t a ministry that fits your needs or one you would like to see started?
- Do you feel spiritually stuck or stagnant and need a boost?
- Do you see areas at our church that need improvement?
- Do you have an untapped gift or talent that you are willing to share?

We are looking at ways to improve our Cathedral life for all of our parishioners. So if you have thoughts or suggestions on any of those items, please feel free to email: sandymeris@gmail.com.

Just a sampling of the items the Stewardship Committee is working on for you.....

- Improved Communication
- Various easy options to pay your stewardship
- In Home Small Groups (post Covid)
- Improved Sunday School
- Opportunities for parishioners to participate in meaningful community outreach
- More opportunities to grow in our faith

No idea is too big, no detail too small. Let’s make 2021 our COMEBACK YEAR! Come back to church and let’s make Holy Trinity Cathedral bigger and better than ever!
Reminder that 2021 dues are due.

Next Meeting on
Sunday, March 7, 2021
11:30am
IN PERSON and by ZOOM
Speros Center Patio

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 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: ___________________________________________________________

EMAIL: _________________________________________________________________

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 2021, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

Remembering Mae (Amanthe) Ducas

Mae, husband Nick and sons Paul and Louie moved to Phoenix in the 1960s. Upon moving to Phoenix they became members of the original Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, at 333 East Virginia. Mae became an integral part of the Church for many years, serving in many capacities. When the Church moved to 1973 East Maryland Ave. she continued in her dedication to the Church/Cathedral.

Our “Bazaar” at the Virginia Church grew to become a city-wide Festival at the Church/Cathedral. Mae was the Chairperson of the Festival. The Festival grew considerably with thousands attending. During the Festival and long days of work Mae would spend the night in her office at the Community Center. Mae was Chairperson of the Festival for many years and along with a Steering Committee guided the growth of the Festival.

Mae was the Administrator of the Speros Community Center and was responsible for any and all activities in the Community Center. Mae also worked on many projects for the Cathedral and had many titles. Mae started and directed a Greek Dance Group for two years and took them to the Folk Dance Festival in California. On one of their trips they met Telly Savalas at the airport who wanted pictures with the Dancers.

Mae Ducas worked very hard for Holy Trinity. She loved and considered Holy Trinity as “Her Church.”

Mae will be missed.

May Her Memory Be Eternal.
Holy Trinity’s St. Katherine Philoptochos

2021 Scholarship Application

The Holy Trinity Cathedral Philoptochos Society will be offering two, one-thousand dollar ($1000) scholarships to Holy Trinity students attending college in the fall of 2021. Listed below are the eligibility requirements:

1. Student and/or family must be a Steward of Holy Trinity Cathedral
2. High school students must have graduated in the spring of 2021 and attending college in the fall of 2021
3. College students may also apply as continuing students or in graduate programs in the Fall of 2021
4. Applicants must submit:
   - A copy of 2020-2021 transcripts
   - College acceptance letter
   - A resume including school, church & community activities

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 5, 2021

If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, please contact a member of the Scholarship Committee or Philoptochos.
Georgana Frieh 480-945-0800    Mary Louise Theodoropoulos 602-943-5080
Mail to: Philoptochos Scholarship, 1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Name: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

City & Zip: ________________________________

Phone: ________________________________

High School or College presently attending: ________________________________

College(s) Accepted to: ________________________________

GPA: ________________________________
Welcome!

Natalie Lewis is our newest member in the Cathedral office.

The Parish Council plus Father Apostolos and Father Alexander are pleased to welcome Natalie. She is a Phoenix native, has experience as an office administrator, and will be bringing that level of professionalism with her.

Please stop in and say hello to her Monday thru Friday.

In-Person Liturgical Services Expands to 150 Communicants

As Covid-19 vaccinations continue and the metrics surrounding the virus trend in a positive direction, we are returning to our previous “Sign-In for Liturgy” instead of the “Sign-Up for Liturgy Online” model. We’re aiming for around 150 communicants each Sunday, but we seem to have great instincts as a parish for staying safe and keeping the crowds manageable. Great job!

All applicable safety measures (masks, distancing, and hand-sanitizers) still apply! Our weekday Divine Liturgies, Paraklesis and Great Vespers services are available for any who are not yet comfortable attending on Sundays. With Great Lent fast approaching, our weekly schedule of services will expand beautifully!

Office Volunteers Needed

As we have been allowed to slowly re-open again the Cathedral for services we are anticipating we will re-open the Cathedral office soon too.

We will have a variety of needs for Volunteer staffing over the next several months.

If you have time and interest to help the church please let Paul Katsenes know at pkatsenes@cox.net.
House of Stewards

Through 03/01/2021

Dorothy Ainslie
Evan & Terri Alexon
Dena Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
John & Sandy Annos
Sheila Asala
Chris & Angie Athens
Christina Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis
Dena Anagnopoulos
Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos
Nikki Anest
John & Sandy Annos
Sheila Asala
Chris & Angie Athens
Christina Bakavelou
Constantine & Eleni Balanis
Ted & Rebecca Barabatis
Scott & Stacey Beaty
George & Stacy Benetos
Dan & Vicki Bichekas
Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis

Terry Harper
George Hasiotis
Stephanie Heckel
Greg Hill
Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill
Bessie Hotis
Pavlos Kairis
James & Linda Kalivas
Pete & Nicole Kamboukos
Basile & Roula Kaneris
Nick & Dena Kantaros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Christina Karakekas
Pete & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Julie Karoutas
Leon & Fayi Katrakis
Christos & Kelley Katsanos
John & Mary Katsenes
Helen Katsafrakis
Ted Kyriacou
John & Angie Lambrou
Elias & Mary Lampos
Scott & Jill Leach
Elizabeth Linos
Angiolo & Patricia Livi
Gregory Livanich
Efterpi Lourias
Jim & Stephanie Machas
Maria Maciejewski
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Jim & Donna Manelis
Bette Maniatis
Maria Maniatis
Anna Manos
Bill & Rina Marinakos
Nicholas Marino
Mary Lou Mastorakos
Peter & Christina Maydanis
Stacie McKenzie
Angela Mead
Joanne Meris
Will & Sandy Meris
Paul Miller
Bill & Jean Miller
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell
Phillip & Helen Mitchell
Matthew & Sophie Neumann
Jerry & Kathy New
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
Anthony Nicoluzakis
Annamarie Nieblas
Marta Ntatsos

Else Paletsos
Elizabeth Palmer
Anna Panagiotakopoulos
Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos
George & Chrysoyla Papadopoulos
Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos
Betty Papas
Nick Papas
Spyros & Rita Papaspyrou
Irene Pappas
John & Andrea Pappas
Daniel & Anna Pardhe
Athena Parmenter
Kai & Katherine Pedersen
Dean & Fotini Pestrivas
Zoe Pestrivas
Jacque Petrovoukas
Bill & Kathy Petsas
Brian & Athena Pickett
Mary Ann Pikulas
Andreas & Mary Poulakidas
George & Kay Poulos
Panagiotis & Anthime Pries
Chris & Juli Pritos
Nicole Pyle
Bertha Quinn
Lyda Rabbitt
Greg Sackos
Lois Sakkas
Jim & Donna Sampanes
Paul Sarantes
John Schneider
George & Angela Scopelianos
Diane Sedlacek
Chris & Terry Seretis
Risa Shaver
John Siavelis
George & Evi Skintzis
Elia & Phyllis Skoubis
Carol Sowers
Angelo & Marie Spanos
Leo & Rachel Spiliopoulos
Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Gerry & Ntina Stamatalatos
Andy & Christine Stamatis
Despina Tavlarides
Billy & Becky Tavlarides
Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos
Jim G. Thomas
Rev. Fr. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher
Dominic Troupea
Thad & Kathy Troupea
Dean & Stella Tsantilas
Costa & Koko Tzavaras
Peter & Lindsay Vardalos
Kristen Vasilidakis
Argyro Vasquez
Scott & Terri Vaughn
Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Paula Walsh
Michael & Christina Wombacher
Richard & Katina Wood
David Worrell & Stephanie Willard
Dimitri & Eugenia Zannis
George & Tina Zannis
Zella Zannis
Michael & Christina Zistatis
Choral Event

Virtual Choir of “Christ Is Risen!”

Love to sing? Join parishioners from throughout the country in a virtual choir recording of “Christ Is Risen!” an exciting new choral arrangement by Fr. Michael Pallad. Sponsored by Orthodox Christian Choral Fellowship (www.occfellowship.org), the virtual choir format eliminates any potential risk of viral spread by singing and recording from the comfort of home. Recording instructions, sing-along Guide Tracks and links to online rehearsals are provided upon registration. The Virtual Choir recording of “Christ Is Risen!” will be posted on social media on Easter Sunday/Pascha, May 2, 2021.

Register before the March 25th deadline at www.occfellowship.org!
Liturgical Services will continue to be live streamed by Father Apostolos and Father Alexander.

**New!** All services can now be found on the **Home Page** of the Cathedral’s website [www.holytrinityphx.org](http://www.holytrinityphx.org), in addition to the continued postings on our Facebook page.

Thank you to Tom Giatron and Joshua Pardhe for their above-and-beyond efforts to bring clear and timely video to all!

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**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.
Endowment Fund

We are extremely grateful to those who have made sacrificial donations for the perpetual benefit of Holy Trinity Cathedral

+ ENDOWMENT GIFTS OVER $10,000.00 +

Gabriel & Helen Papagallos  Faye Boukas  George & Ann Souvall
The DeMoss Families  Dennis & Anastasia DeBerry  IMO+ Tasia Pritchard
IMO+ Mary Montague  George & Koula Cheros  John George Thomas
IMO+ John G. Zannaras  IMO+ Dina Sakellarakis  Steve & Joan Vrahas
Steve & Judith Vrahas  Dr. Nicholas Baziotes  James & Connie Coin Contes
Angé & Alex J. Pappas  John & Mary Katsenes

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER $1,000.00

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss,

IN MEMORY GIFTS:  IMO+ Stacy Hotis, IMO+ Danny Speros, IMO+ Mark Sprintz,
IMO+ Chris Gabriel, IMO+ Fr. James & Presb. Katherine Tavlarides, IMO+ Tom Contes,
IMO+ Leonard Mastorakos, IMO+ John Sgouros, IMO+ Chris Gabriel,
IMO+ Athena & Dan Choukalas, IMO+ Milton & Harriet Sioles,
IMO+ Koula & Pete Triantafyllou, IMO+ Fr. Anthony Coniaris

+REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL+

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

Go to www.holytrinityphx.org and then click on Stewardship
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 Father Alexander will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

**Bible Study**
**Fr. Apostolos Re-starts Bible Study!**
Join Fr. Apostolos in his Bible Study on ZOOM every **Saturday at 9am**!

The study is titled "Experiencing the Psalms" and will provide an in-depth survey of how the Psalter came to be over 1,000 years by multiple authors, how the Psalms were used in worship in the Old Testament, and how they are used in Orthodox Worship today.

We will examine how to incorporate the Psalms into our Rules of Daily Prayer and how to navigate them as our personal prayer book.

Zoom ID is 84203179482 and the Password is 026451

**Divine Liturgy Class**
**Fr. Alexander Class on the Divine Liturgy**
Join us on **Mondays at 7pm** on ZOOM as we begin to dissect the Divine Liturgy. We will see the development and history of the Liturgy as well as doing a “prayer-by-prayer” of the center of our life as Orthodox Christians.

Zoom ID is 360 179 3722 and the password is HTPhoenix

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Desert Springs March 2021
Annunciation of the Theotokos
Commemorated on March 25

The Feast commemorates the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would become incarnate and enter into this world through her womb.

The Archangel Gabriel appeared to the Virgin Mary, who was living in Nazareth, and said to her, “Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you.” Mary was perplexed and wondered what kind of greeting this was.

The angel told her not to be afraid, for she had found favor with God. He said, “You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mary responded to the angel by asking how this could happen since she had no husband. The angel told her that the Holy Spirit and the power of God would come upon her, and that the child to be born of her would be called holy, the “Son of God.”

In faith and obedience to the will of God, Mary replied to the angel, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be according to your word.” Upon her response, the angel departed.

It is on the Feast of the Annunciation, that Orthodox Christians commemorate both the divine initiative of God, whereby He took on flesh from the Virgin for our salvation, and the human response, whereby Mary freely accepted the vocation offered to her. He elected to become man, and He desired to do this with the willing agreement of her whom He chose as His mother. Mary could have refused, for she was not a passive instrument, but an active participant with a free and positive part to play in God’s plan for our salvation. Thus, when on this and other feasts the Orthodox Church honors the Theotokos, the Mother of God, it is not just because God chose her but also because she herself chose to follow His will.
Sunday School—New!

Beginning Sunday
March 7, 2021
and for the rest of the Spring

Sunday School
taught by
John Schneider & Ted Kyriacou

After Liturgy kids will go outside
to do a fun activity, and have a quick discussion.

Sunday School
February 14, 2021
Our Church Family

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

02/20/2021
Nick Marino
Godparent: Alexander Harding
God’s Blessings be upon him.

Funerals
“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

02/26/2021
Mae Ducas
May her memory be eternal.

02/27/2021
Vasillia Papatzimas
May her memory be eternal.

Desert Diamonds
Senior Parishioners and their guests

Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

Hello!

Praying that you are all well and staying safe.

I am sure that most of us are weary from all the isolation and are waiting to resume the Fellowship that we have shared in the past before Covid hit us!!!!

I am planning a tentative, Pre-Lent Brunch, on Thursday, March 11th at 11:00am, for our Desert Diamonds Ministry. We may be able to meet at our church’s patio. It will be kept safe & follow the Health rules. More details to follow as we see how we stand for safety. Should we have this catered & all pay our fair share of the cost or do we do a potluck? Please let me know.

Can’t wait to see you all!!!!!

I would like to hear from you if you have any suggestions, email address, phone number corrections or additions to our list.

God’s blessings to one and All.

Yours in Christ,

Julie Karoutas
email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
cell: 623-313-8720 call, text, or message with your name & names of guests

Follow HTC on Facebook

The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos 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.
AHEPA Saguaro Chapter 219 will hold it’s monthly meeting and Second Annual Steak Night on 11 March, 2021 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral starting at 6:30 PM for a night of fellowship and camaraderie. The meal will include open bar, a 16+ oz. Ribeye Steak, all the fixings, and cake/ice cream and coffee service for $25 per person. Please come out and join the brothers after a long hiatus due to local health directives. The event will take place outdoors and all mask, social distancing, and contact information protocols will be observed.
Important March Events

- Apokires (Carnival or Greek Mardi Gras)
- February 24 through March 14
- Beginning of March - Marti Bracelets
- March 15 1st Day of Lent, Καθαρή Δευτέρα
- March 25—200 year anniversary of our Independence from the Ottoman Empire

Greek Carnival (Apokries) lasts for three weeks and is celebrated seventy days before Easter.

The three weeks of Apokires are called Profóní (Announcement Week), Kreatiní (Meat Week), and Tyriní (Cheese Week), which is also called Tyrofágou (Cheese-eating Week).

The Kreatiní week ends with Apókreo Sunday (No-meat Sunday) because from the following day, we abstain from eating meat. During the week of Tyrofágou, we eat dairy products as an intermediate step between eating meat and the fasting that will follow in the next period, the Lent.

During Apokires, merrymaking, entertainment, festivals and masquerade occur.

Greek School learned about these traditions and made masks and τρούφες, α yummy chocolate truffle.

Another important holiday is Greek Independence Day! March 25, 1821. This year we celebrate our 200 years anniversary of our Independence from the Ottoman Empire!!

Ζήτω η Ελλάδα
OPA—Orthodox Parents Association
Dianna Scaccia, Co-President
Paulina Watson, Co-President

Paulina Watson
602-740-3950
Paulinawatson25@gmail.com

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

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
cjecomom@gmail.com,
and we’ll get you added to list!

OCMC PRESENTS

PRAY GIVE GO
VIRTUAL BENEFIT
SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021 | 7PM MT

Join us for first ever OCMC virtual event in the Phoenix area! Be part of the movement that began with Christ’s last command to His disciples to “make disciples of all nations” and continues with YOU!

Come hear from Fr. Chris Rowe, OCMC Development Officer, as he shares his experience on how a life in Christ brings us closer together.

Questions? Contact events@ocmc.org
PRAY GIVE GO VIRTUAL BENEFIT

Sunday, April 11, 2021 | 7PM MT

GUEST SPEAKER
Fr. Christopher Rowe
OCMC Development Officer

Connecting with Christ, Connecting with Others

Join us for Phoenix's first ever OCMC virtual event! Be part of the movement that began with Christ's last command to His disciples to "make disciples of all nations" and continues with YOU! Hear from OCMC's Development Officer as he shares his experience of how a life in Christ brings us closer to each other.

This FREE Stay-At-Home event is a new way to bring our communities together at the comfort of your own home. Register TODAY to get your Zoom link. We look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Contact events@ocmc.org
Register by scanning the QR code with your phone camera or visit: https://www.ocmc.org/serve-from-home/host-or-join-event.
A Lenten Journey

Volunteer Opportunity for High School and College Students
Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that connects you to your faith? Become a volunteer today!

A LENTEN JOURNEY
TO GREAT AND
Holy Pascha
Metropolis-wide Youth Religious Education Program

- 11-week virtual youth Religious Education program
- Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade
- Lessons will include key themes of the liturgical cycle beginning with the Triodion, continuing into Great Lent, through Holy Week and concluding with Holy Pascha.
- Classes will be held on Zoom every Sunday beginning February 21 from 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. PST. The last session will be held on Good Friday, April 30.
- Sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Christian Education Ministry, in collaboration with the Orthodox Youth Mentorship Program of Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Camarillo, CA.
- A team of volunteer teachers will engage students with lessons, activities, and service projects. High school and college students will participate as mentors and activity leaders.

Register Today! There is no cost to attend, but registration is required, prior to Friday, February 5, 2021.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to participate in insightful lessons, activities and service projects, all designed to enrich their Lenten journey and prepare them for the celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection,” stated His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco.

“Our children deserve the best opportunities to be empowered with knowledge on their faith, and especially during these times of ongoing physical separation, this program creates an opportunity to enhance fellowship and friendships from across our Metropolis.”

For more information visit: www.religiousedsanfrancisco.org
or contact Program Coordinator Maria Tangalos at mariatangalos@gmail.com
We are so excited to announce the return of our Youth Nights on Saturday, March 13 at 5pm after a year of absence! We’ll begin with Vespers, followed by a Pizza Dinner and rotations with each age group of Greek Dance, crafts, activities, and a session with Fr. Alexander in the Cathedral. All youth from 1st Grade-High School are welcome to come and will rotate with their peers through these great activities!

Join us for a wonderful evening of faith, fun, food, and dance as our youth can come together for the first time in a year! Masks will be worn at all times indoors and when in close proximity, hand sanitizer will be available, and all precautions taken for a safe and wonderful time.

Please RSVP to Fr. Alexander at aeliades@holytrinityphx.org