

Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill Rev. 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

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Desert Springs DeadlineThe 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline Wednesdays, 12 noon

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2021 Parish Council Members

Paul Katsenes—President
Connie Contes—Vice President
Jim Manelis—Treasurer
Dina Anagnopoulos—Assistant Treasurer
Andi Fourlis—Secretary
Charlie DeMoss, Sandy Meris,
Socrates Papadopoulos

Holy Trinity Cathedral Website www.holytrinityphx.org

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

Archdiocese Website www.goarch.org

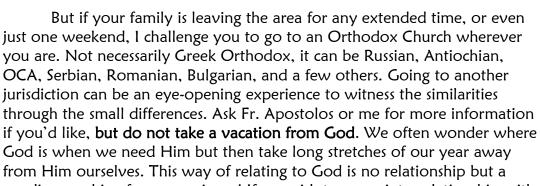
Organization Contacts

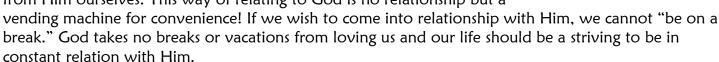
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- All Saints Camp Evan Tsagaris: etsagaris89@gmail.com
- Altar Servers Deacon John Thrasher, David Haag, Chris Francis: thrasheraz@cox.net, davidmhaag@yahoo.com, battersbox7@yahoo.com
- Bible Study Father Apostolos Hill: papoulihill@gmail.com
- Bookstore Rita Papaspyrou: <u>rzakher@gmail.com</u>
- Byzantine Choir George Duvall: phxchantor@cox.net
- Choir Terri Alexon: <a href="http://https:
- Dance Niko Panagiotakopoulos: npanos01@yahoo.com
- Daughters of Penelope Angie Lambrou: <u>angie.lambrou@cox.net</u>
- **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
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- Philoptochos Alex Anagnopoulos: <u>aanagnopoulos2@msn.com</u>
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- Stewardship Sandy Meris: sandymeris@gmail.com
- **Sunday School** Kalli Schneider: <u>kalliopischneider@gmail.com</u>
- Wedding Coordinator Terri Alexon: terrialexon@gmail.com
- YAL 19-29 Elliot Staikos: text 717-682-0550
- YAL 30-49 Nick Papas: npapas@yahoo.com

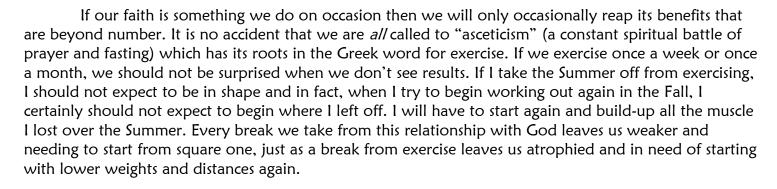
Message from Father Alexander

Vacation Time!

Summer has finally arrived and at the perfect time! We seem to be through most of the bad of Covid, restrictions are lifting and those planned vacations of Summer 2020 can now be enjoyed in 2021. We can go about our lives as normal and live our normal Summers that we have enjoyed in the past! Of course these are all good things, but let's attempt to make an addendum. As we take a break from school and work to enjoy our time in weather that is perhaps not 120 degrees, find an Orthodox Church wherever you are. If you're staying in Phoenix, we've got you covered as we will be continuing our Liturgical schedule and continue to have different events as well as our busy preparations for our Festival in October! There's plenty for you here!







So do not fall into the trap of thinking we can, without hiccup or issue, take leave of God and the Church over the Summer. Our relationship with God is one that requires our giving ourselves to Him constantly. In return He sends down upon us His Divine Grace and gifts unimaginable. Not wealth and power but true peace and true love for all to fill us and the world with His Love. By taking the Summer off from church we tell God that we are not in need of what He is offering us constantly. Now, more than ever we truly are in need of it. Let us continue our journey to be with Him, even on our vacations.





Vision Statement

"To be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love through faith and service"

Where there is no vision, the people will perish." Proverbs 29:18

Why does Holy Trinity Cathedral exist? And why would anyone want to join our church? The most critical question any person, parish or ministry must answer is, why are you here?

As you may recall, our Parish Council went through a strategic planning exercise for our Cathedral and shared that plan with the parish at last fall's Parish Assembly. The primary focus of the plan encompasses four pillars; Community, Youth, Culture and Campus all of which support the foundation which is, our Faith.

We took that strategic plan one step further to articulate a short, compelling and inspirational reason why our parish exists and why anyone would want to join us. And in fact, "why statements" have a Biblical basis..."Men, <u>WHY</u> are you doing these things?" Acts 14:14.

We were blessed to be led on this "Why Discovery Process" by Bill Marianes who has been supporting parishes in our Metropolis on their journey to creating a true culture of Christian stewardship which extends far beyond monetary contributions, but is a transformative way of leading a life in Christ. Mr. Marianes is a devout Greek Orthodox Christian who has devoted the last 36 years working with national, regional, individual church communities, clergy and faithful to understand and implement true stewardship, engaged discipleship, and consensus vision and strategic planning.

While participating in these Metropolis stewardship seminars we realized the importance of creating a "why statement" for Holy Trinity. This "why statement" essentially sharpens our strategic plan to a fine point. One that we can clearly express in a single sentence. As a result we are proud to introduce you to Holy Trinity Cathedral's "why statement," "To be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love through faith and service."

Our hope is that this statement will inspire our parishioners to be more welcoming, more engaged in the divine services, more active in our ministries, more curious about our faith, more service-oriented to others and called to true stewardship and engaged discipleship.

We also hope that when a newcomer or visitor reads this statement on our bulletin or on our website that it calls them to want to be a part of our church family.

We pray this statement will inspire us to continue lifting Holy Trinity Cathedral to reach its greatest potential and that we all find personal inspiration to grow in our faith and become closer to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. May we all continue to work together "to be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love through faith and service."

With Love in Christ,

Rev. Apostolos Hill Rev. Alexander Eliades All Members of Holy Trinity's Parish Council All Members of Holy Trinity's Stewardship Team

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



A *HUGE THANK YOU* to all of our parishioners for participating in our parish-wide Lenten service project. Your generous contributions

of non-perishable food items and funds to benefit St. Mary's Food Bank resulted in collecting almost 630 pounds of food and \$200 in cash donations.

During the Covid-19 pandemic local food banks were hit very hard and their pantries were stretched thin after thousands of local families looked to food banks to put meals on their tables for the first time. Our assistance was one step in replenishing their food pantry.

When we help those in need we are engaging in community outreach which is one of the cornerstones of Christianity and one part of being a good steward of Holy Trinity Cathedral.

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

- Hebrews 13:16









A Great Opportunity to Save Taxes and Help Holy Trinity

Submitted by Charles DeMoss

Parishioners aged 70½ and older can take tax-free distributions from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and have those funds <u>directly transferred</u> from their financial institutions to Holy Trinity Cathedral. These sums will count toward any required minimum distribution (RMD) that the IRA must satisfy for the year. Distributions can be made in any amount up to \$100,000 per year.

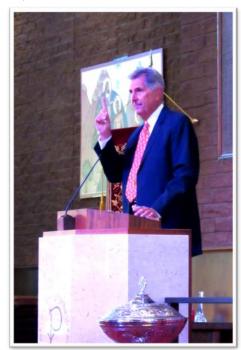
We are asking our parishioners to consider this strategy as a way to benefit our church.

Please contact your financial and tax advisors before initiating this strategy.

+REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL+

Informational Parish Assembly

May 23, 2021









Informational Parish Assembly

May 23, 2021

HOLY TRINITY TREASURER'S REPORT



Holy Trinity continues to be VERY blessed!

2021 Recap

- Re-opening and stronger than expected
 - First Quarter stewardship is 15% higher than 2020 one of our strongest starts
 - Awarded 2nd round PPP loan for \$71,590
 - Planning for Festival 2021

2020 Recap

- Covid-19 was challenging financially our Parish was more than resilliant
 - Refinanced our loan from 3.25% to a lower rate of 2.30% AND shortened the term
 - □ Received a PPP loan for \$50,003 to help offset the shortfall in income
 - Now officially have a 2nd priest to help Father Apostolos broaden our services
 - 2 Estate Gifts to help us for our future
 - Helped Little Big Minds by honoring their request to defer 2 months of payments (total of \$20,046) payable at the end of the lease
 - Parishioners poured their support by donating over \$75,000 for the Festival Fundraiser

Treasurer Report: 2021 / 2020 / 2019 SUMMARY



YEAR TO DATE	2021	2020	TO 2019 FULL	YEAR COMPARIS	ON
Summary Income & Expense Statement	April YTD	2020 Actual	2019 Actual	\$ Variance YTD 2020 to YTD 2019	% Variance 2020 to 2019
INCOME					
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP/DONATIONS	198,184.90	477,505.37	479,775.25	(2,269.88)	0%
TOTAL OTHER/MISC INCOME	49,863.32	117,939.00	133,703.20	(15,764.20)	-12%
SOCIALS/FUNDRAISING INCOME	14,166.00	85,692.67	559,381.20	(473,688.53)	-85%
TOTAL ALL INCOME	262,214.22	681,137.04	1,172,859.65	(491,722.61)	-42%
EXPENSES					
TOTAL PRIEST SALARY & INSURANCE	84,593.44	215,588.96	135,533.40	80,055.56	59%
TOTAL LITURGICAL EMPLY & CONTR.	16,723.34	64,077.96	62,992.91	1,085.05	2%
TOTAL CONTRACTORS	25,171.72	77,278.08	76,475.08	803.00	1%
TOTAL DIOCESE & ARCH PAYMENTS	18,999.49	91,638.00	102,412.04	(10,774.04)	-11%
TOTAL OTHER/MISC EXPENSES	33,053.94	140,428.82	145,120.85	(4,692.03)	-3%
TOTAL REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,523.38	31,008.79	42,941.48	(11,932.69)	-28%
TOTAL UTILITIES	35,723.69	123,699.47	152,852.26	(29,152.79)	-19%
TOTAL SUPPLIES	6,766.59	13,629.48	21,017.57	(7,388.09)	-35%
TOTAL SOCIALS/FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	477.27	14,229.41	263,557.45	(249,328.04)	-95%
TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	225,032,86	771,578.97	1,002,903.04	(231,324.07)	-23%
NET INCOME	37,181.36	(90,441.93)	169,956.61	(260,398.54)	-153%
PPP Loan	71,590.00	50,003.00			
NET INCOME (after PPP Loan Forgiveness)	108,771.36	(40,438.93)			
CURRENT PERFORMANCE	238,289.04	129,517.68			

Special Fundraising Campaign:

 Parish Council along with the Festival Ministry conducted a campaign to offset the income loss of not having a festival. Raised ~\$75,000

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!

Next Meeting on
Thursday, June 3, 2021
6:00pm
IN PERSON
Speros Community Center



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

Scholarships

Mail your membership to:

When graduates are looking for extra money to help with their college expenses, the ladies of Philoptochos are pleased to offer two \$1000 scholarships to our Holy Trinity Cathedral students for the fall of 2021. When you support Philoptochos, you are supporting many charities like the student scholarships we give each year. Students may complete the scholarship and return by June 5th to gfrieh@cox.net or call Mary Louise Theodoropoulos at 602-943-5080.

We thank you for your support and blessings always.

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.

St. Katherine's Philoptochos of HTC Membership 2021, 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

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:

- 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) A	ccepted to:
GPA:	

Mask Update



May 28, 2021 By Holy Martyr Euthchius, Bishop of Melitene

Dear Clergy and Faithful of the Southwest Vicariate,

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!

In accordance with the state regulations in Arizona and Nevada, and the recent guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), individuals who are fully vaccinated will no longer be required to wear face-coverings or comply with social distancing during worship services, sacraments and events at all Greek Orthodox churches in the Arizona and Nevada, which comprise the Southwest Vicariate in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco. We will also no longer be requiring reservations for services. Our parishes will continue to have sanitation and safety measures in place. All other aspects of worship, parish gatherings and youth activities are to return to normal. Some parishes may continue to offer live-streaming services.

We must demonstrate respect and love as a Christian family to all our brothers and sisters in Christ, some of whom may wish to continue to wear masks during worship. There are still groups of people unable to be vaccinated (children under 12) as well as others who may have a condition or take medications that weaken the immune system and, even though vaccinated, may not be fully protected. Even after vaccination, some may need or merely wish to continue taking all precautions.

As Christians, we have an ethical obligation to protect the vulnerable. Those not fully vaccinated are recommended to continue to wear masks in order to protect themselves and others from potential exposure. While some organizations require proof of vaccination, others maintain an "honor system" policy, which will be our approach, as faith, trust, and love are guiding principles for us as Orthodox Christians.

We have navigated through the unchartered waters of the pandemic for 16 months, and I am profoundly grateful to our clergy and faithful in our entire Metropolis for their patience and cooperation with regard to the adherence of federal, state and local guidelines to ensure the health and safety of our congregations.

Praying that our Resurrected Lord may continue to grant us His Divine love and protection, as we continue to worship Him with one mind, one heart, and one voice, I remain,

With Love in the Risen Christ,

Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco

Octor Corting of Say Fragisco

House of Stewards

Through 05/27/2021

Dorothy Ainslie Peter & Sarah Agnos Evan & Terri Alexon Dena Anagnopoulos

Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos

Nikki Anest Bettina Angelos John & Sandy Annos Elaine Apostle

Sheila Asala Chris & Angie Athens Christina Bakavelou

Diana Balos

Constantine & Eleni Balanis Ted & Rebecca Barabatis Scott & Stacey Beaty George & Stacy Benetos Dan & Vicki Bichekas Peter & Jennifer Bilitsis

Helen Bixenman James & Helen Bruno Chris & Georgia Brusalis Chris & Rita Bruskas Kristen Bruskas

Constance Burkhart Elias Carras

Kathy Carras Frank & Alice Carris Katie Chames

Laurel Charnas-Schiller

Harriet Chotras Jim Chotras

Pete & Kim Choukalas

Kathy Clarke

Andy & Mara Contes Jim & Connie Contes Ed Cooper & Angie Valerou-Cooper Patty Davis

Len & Elaine Debickero

Hercules Dellas

Patrick & Karla Delord Tom & Irene Demas

John & Mary Demetropoulos

Bill DeMoss Charles DeMoss Chris DeMoss

John & Marjorie DeMoss

Basil Denaxas

Stan & Fran Drozdz

Denise Dye Kathryn Dye

Christos & Dena Economopoulos

Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades Zach & Nikki Forman Athanase & Georgia Fourlis

Athanasia Fourlis Ted & Andi Fourlis Tim Fraenkel

Chris & Celeste Francis

Georgi Frieh

George & Julie Froumis

Semos Gardner Andreanna Georgiou

Thomas & Christina Georgiou

Demetra Georgelos Diana Georgelos Pamela Georgelos John Giannopoulos Polly Ginakes Stella Glitsos Eva Goodman Bill & Lynn Graham

Gina Graham David Haag Mary Haidos Donald Hall

Alexander Harding Terry Harper George Hasiotis Stephanie Heckel

Greg Hill

Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill

Michael & Veronica Hill

Bessie Hotis

Jason & Ekaterini Jaynes

Pavlos Kairis

James & Linda Kalivas Pete & Nicole Kamboukos Vasilios & Angela Kamboukos

Basile & Roula Kaneris Nick & Dena Kantaros William & Harriet Kapolas Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis

Christina Karalekas Pete & Tina Karegeannes Virginia Karegeannes

Julie Karoutas

Leon & Fayi Katrakis

Christos & Kelley Katsanos

John & Mary Katsenes Paul & Lori Katsenes

George Katsaros Helen Katsufrakis

Jim & Poppy Kavouris

Fanny Kechajias Cathy Keyser

Ronald & Virginia Kidd

Emily Kimmell

Spiros & Maria Kontakis Art & Carol Kostaras Nickolas Koziris

Nick & Marina Kretsedemas

Tammy Kretsedemas

Andreas & Cindy Kyprianou

Ted Kyriacou

John & Angie Lambrou Elias & Mary Lampos Scott & Jill Leach Mike & Lea Linares Elizabeth Linos

Angiolo & Patricia Livi Gregory Lizanich Efterpi Lourias

Jim & Stephanie Machas

Maria Maciejewski Joanna Mackos Marika Makridis Margarita Makris Julie & Felix Mamani Jim & Donna Manelis

Bette Maniatis Maria Maniatis

Anna Manos Bill & Rina Marinakos Nicholas Marino

Douglas Markakis Mary Lou Mastorakos Pamela Maydanis

Peter & Christina Maydanis

Stacie McKenzie Angela Mead Joanne Meris Will & Sandy Meris Angeline Miller

House of Stewards continued from page 11

Paul Miller Bill & Jean Miller Anthony Miologos

Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell

Dino Moschovitis

Phillip & Helen Mitchell Matthew & Sophie Neumann

Jerry & Kathy New
John & Maria Nicholas
Evelyn Nickalew
Anthony Nicoluzakis
Annamarie Nieblas
Marta Ntatsos

Pamela & Jeffrey Nolen

Else Paletsos Elizabeth Palmer

Anna Panagiotakopoulos

Thanasi & Melissa Panagiotakopoulos George & Chrysoula

Papadopoulos

Socrates & Stephanie

Papadopoulos Betty Papas Nick Papas

Spyros & Rita Papaspyrou

Irene Pappas

John & Andrea Pappas Gabriella Papatzimas Daniel & Anna Pardhe Athena Parmenter Kai & Katherine Pedersen

Dean & Fotini Pestrivas

Zoe Pestrivas

Chris Petroulakis

Jacque Petroulakis

Bill & Kathy Petsas

Michael & TeAnn Philippis Brian & Athena Pickett Mary Ann Pikulas

Andreas & Mary Poulakidas

George & Kay Poulos

Panagiotes & Anthipe Pries

Chris & Juli Pritsos 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 George & Traci Sgouros

Risa Shaver John Siavelis Elyse Sioles

George & Evi Skintzis
Elias & Phyllis Skoubis
Elias & Theodora Staikos

Carol Sowers

Angelo & Marie Spanos Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos James & Christina Speros Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos Gerry & Nitsa Stamatelatos

Andy & Christine Stamatis
Despina Tavlarides
Billy & Becky Tavlarides
Nicholas & Effie Theodore

Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos

Jim G. Thomas

John & Teresa Thomas

Rev. Fr. John & Diak. Mary Thrasher

Dominic Tropea
Thad & Kathy Tropea

Dean & Stella Tsantilas Dimitri Tsioutsiopoulos

Sotiros & Nicki Tsioutsiopoulos

Costa & Koko Tzavaras George & Connie Venetis Peter & Lindsay Vardalos

Kristen Vasilarakos Argyro Vasquez Scott & Terri Vaughn John & Jean VDalPan Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis

Colin and Paula Walsh
Michael & Christina Wombacher

Richard & Katina Wood

David Worrell & Stephanie Willard

Dimitri & Eugenia Zannis George & Tina Zannis

Zella Zannis Evangeline Zikos

Michael & Christina Zistatsis

If you have filled out a 2021 Pledge Card but your name does not appear on this list, please know any omissions are unintentional. Please call the Church office immediately to resolve the situation.

If you have not filled out a Pledge Card for 2021, please pick one up in the Church Narthex or visit <u>holytrinityphx.org</u>.

Music Ministry "Notes"

By Terri Alexon, Choir Director

Sing unto the Lord; for He has done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.



Christ is Risen! Truly, He is RIsen!

Glory to God, the Cathedral Choir is back in the saddle again! It has been a long time coming, but we are pleased to formally announce plans to return to Divine Liturgy on Pentecost, which is the Cathedral's feast day on **June 20th**.

For some of us who have been singing in church since they were very young, it was so strange to be sitting or standing on the sidelines not leading the congregation with singing. We now know what the Jewish people experienced while in exile during Biblical times. Even though it has been a while without singing, the Choir was quick to remember how to do so. We joked that it was like riding a bicycle after many years of driving a car. That is exactly what it felt like, a bit wobbly at first, but more confident as we got into the music.

Also, Tommy Giatron, our resident sound engineer, has generously donated his time connecting the Cathedral organ to the livestream. This is so our Cathedral organist, Terry Seretis, does not sound like she is playing in the Chapel next door! The goal is to enhance the sound to better accommodate those who are not able to attend Divine Liturgy in person. Some of the Choir's funds have been expended to add technical equipment, including a sound mixer, additional microphones, stands and new wiring since the old ones have started crackling. Your generous financial support throughout the years has been put to good use.

Finally, our fervent hope is that others will consider joining the music ministry to further enhance the worship experience. If you or your child (7 years or older) are interested in participating in the music ministry, now is the time. Prior experience in any choral group is helpful, but is not required. All you need is the will to do it! Feel free to test out your voice at the next rehearsal on most Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm. If you have further questions, please contact clergy or the Choir Director Terri Alexon by text/telephone at 480-233-2416 or by email at terrialexon@gmail.com.



"Command Central" for broadcasting our services.

Maintenance Corner

By Ted Fourlis

Your maintenance committee was able to find and repair a water leak under the pavement of the arched driveway by the Cathedral. Special thanks to John Katsaros for volunteering his time and equipment to make the repair. Peter Bilitsis is currently working on a lighting solution for the steps leading up to the Educational Building/Office. Ted Fourlis & Peter Bilitsis have completed the

changeout of lights around the basketball court/volleyball court to new LED fixtures. This now completes the install of new LED lighting on our campus parking lots and sport courts. The backflow preventer valve for our Cathedral water was rebuilt and repaired. We are currently working on a blockage in the line from the Cathedral bathrooms to the sewer.

Special thanks to Socrates Papadopoulos for his employer's donation of desks, shelving units, tvs, monitors, office supplies and computer hardware. The Valonis brothers made numerous trips to load and unload all equipment. This was no easy chore!

Enjoy your summer and we will keep you posted on new projects. Be safe.

Your Maintenance Committee:

Ted Fourlis

Peter Bilitsis

Dimitri Valonis

Paul Valonis

Paul Katsenes

Jim Contes

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 602-625-8835

htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com







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

All services can now be found on the **Home Page** of the Cathedral's website

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!



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 <i>Desert Springs</i> 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	

Our Church Family

Baptisms

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



Galatians 3:27

05/08/2021

Evie Panagiotakopoulos, Parents: Alexia & Alexander

Panagiotakopoulos

Godparent: Sophia Patton God's Blessings be upon her.

05/16/2021

Micah Hall.

Parents: Veronica & Michael Hill Godparent: Dominic Tropea God's Blessings be upon him.



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 Father Alexander will light a candle and say a prayer for you.

Mother's Day Carnations

May 9, 2021















St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

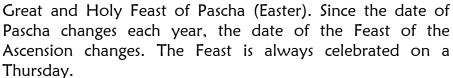
By Rita Papaspyrou

Ascension of our Lord

Commemorated Forty days after Pascha



The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the



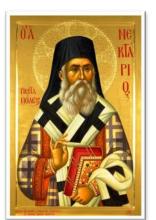
The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven.

The moment of the Ascension is told in one sentence: "He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight" (Acts 1:9).

It is also at this time that the disciples were directed by Christ to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). Jesus also told them that He would be with them always, "even to the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

The icon of The Ascension of Our Lord is a joyous icon. It is painted with bright colors. Christ is shown ascending in His glory in a mandorla. A mandorla is a design which is almond-shaped or round. Inside the mandorla is the figure of a holy person. Christ blesses the assembly with His right hand. In His left is a scroll. The scroll is a symbol of teaching. This icon shows that the Lord in heaven is the source of blessing. In addition, Jesus is the source of knowledge. The icon reminds us that Christ continues to be the source of the teaching and message of the Church, blessing and guiding those to whom He has entrusted his work.

The Theotokos occupies a very special place in this icon. She is in the center of the icon, immediately below the ascending Christ. The gesture of her hands is a gesture of prayer. She is clearly outlined by the whiteness of the garments of the angels. The Theotokos is depicted in a very calm pose. This is quite different from the appearance of the Disciples. They are moving about, talking to one another and looking and pointing towards heaven. The entire group, the Theotokos and the disciples represent the Church.



AHEPA Chapter 219

AHEPA CHAPTER 219



AHEPA Saguaro Chapter 219 closed out their year at their May 20th meeting by donating a Grand Total of \$35,753 to the local community and beyond.

Have a great summer and we will see you at our kickoff meeting on:

Thursday, 19 August, 2021 at HTGOC starting at 6 PM

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

Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners and their guests

Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends.



June greetings to All! Hoping that all is well with you and yours.

The bus trip to St. Anthony's Monastery that I had hoped to book for May unfortunately did not happen. I will plan a bus trip in the Fall when it is cooler.

In the meantime, now that it is safer, a gathering of our group at a local restaurant for Brunch after the church service would be lovely. How wonderful it will be to see our fellow parishioners and break bread together before the summer break for our group. I would love to receive any suggestions as to where to have this Brunch. Information to follow.

Sincerely with love in Christ,

Julie Karoutas

email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com cell: 623-313-8720 call or text

Lost & Found

The Narthex now has a lost and found! If you have lost anything during one of our services please ask the

videos of our services.



Narthex volunteers before service and they will direct you to the Lost & Found.

HTC on Facebook

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



What YOU Can Do to Make Visitors Feel Welcome



Have you noticed new faces? 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 socially distance walk with them to Coffee Hour. A personal connection goes far!

Donations

We greatly value all your donations! Please remember, when you write us a check, to include your intention for the donation and your envelope number in the memo line. i.e. stewardship, candles, etc.

Thank you all!



Third Party IT System Administrator Needed

Our Cathedral office is looking for a new IT company! If this is something you do or know about, please call Natalie in the office at 602-264-7863!

Choir Return!

Our Choir is Returning!

Youth Choir Rehearsal

Come sing a song for the Lord! Rehearsals for Youth Choir will be held up in the loft's Music Ministry Rehearsal Room on Sundays from 9:00 until Divine Liturgy begins. Contact Terri Alexon at 480-233-2416 or terrialexon@gmail.com with any questions.

Adult Choir Rehearsal

Our Cathedral Choir is returning to singing the Divine Liturgy beginning in August.

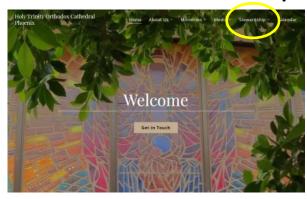
Choir rehearsals started last week and will continue every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm following Paraklesis. Because of Great Vespers for the Ascension, the rehearsal scheduled for Wednesday, June 9 will be moved to Thursday, June 10.

ST. NECTARIOS BOOKSTORE Starting April 4 St. Nectarios Bookstore will be open every Sunday following Divine Liturgy for 30 minutes



Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

Go to www.holytrinityphx.org and then click on Stewardship



Service Project

Young Adults

HOLY TRINITY YOUNG ADULTS



YOUNG ADULT SERVICE PROJECT

SATURDAY, JUNE 12 12-2PM

Join Holy Trinity Young Adults as we help the needy RSVP to Fr. Alexander (aeliades@holytrinityphx.org)

Sunday School

A heartfelt THANK YOU to

Kalliopi "Kalli" Schneider for many, many decades worth of teaching and leading our Sunday School Program!

You will be deeply missed.



Calling Parents & Young Adults

Please consider joining to help re-forming Sunday School

We have begun the process of brainstorming and thinking of ways to re-energize our Sunday School program.

Are you a parent or young adult who wants to help form our children in their faith?

Please consider helping with Sunday School in the Fall in any capacity that you can.

Reach out to Andi at alfourlis@mpsaz.org











Theodore Annos - H



Seraphina Bates - 8th



Kosta Bracamonte - 8th



Andrew Delord - 8th



Alexa DeMoss -



Eleni Economopoulos – 8t



Katie Economopoulos – 8th



Niki Kyprianou – College



Jackson Meyers - 8th



Theodore Mousses - HS



Vasili Paul - HS



Anastasia Pickett - College



Aja Romano - F



Thomas Russell - College



Alex Sampson - HS



Sophia Scaccia - HS



Valya Sedor – HS



Teddy Theodoropoulos - 8th



Vardalos – HS



James Wood - HS







A huge thank you
to all who attended, participated in,
and helped make
this year's honoring
of Holy Trinity's 2021 graduates
after Divine Liturgy
such a lovely celebration.
And congratulations
to all our other graduates
who were unable to attend.





Seraphina Bates will be completing 8th grade. Seraphina has been home schooled and will continue her home school education until she is ready for college. Seraphina excels in and is a gifted artist. Her future goals are to travel and go to law school.

Seraphina lives by the teaching of, "Hard work pays off."



Kosta Bracamonte will be graduating 8th grade from Maie Bartlett Heard Elementary School. In school, Kosta was recognized for being the Best On-Line Student. At Holy Trinity, Kosta participated in the Greek dance program, and attended the All Saints Camp. In the fall, Kosta will attend Washington High School.



Andrew Delord will be graduating 8th grade from Madison Meadows Middle School. In his free time, Andrew enjoys playing football. At Holy Trinity, Andrew has been active in Sunday School, the Greek dance program, the youth groups, and All-Saints Camp. In the fall, Andrew plans to attend Arcadia High School.



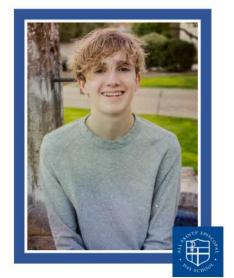
Eleni Economopoulos is graduating 8th grade from Madison Meadows Middle School. In school, Eleni was part of National Junior Honor Society; a member of the Madison "No Place for Hate" Committee; a member of the Madison Wellness Committee; and was on her school's Yearbook Team. At Holy Trinity, Eleni participates in Sunday School, youth groups, and the Greek dance program & FDF Competitions. In her free time, Eleni plays tennis with the AZ Tennis Academy; plays volleyball for Ramms; volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul's homeless shelter and UMOM; and loves to create art, bake and cook. In the fall, Eleni will be attending Sunnyslope High School. Eleni's goals are to exceed in the sports she plays and to travel. In the future, she plans to become an Industrial-Organizational Psychologist.

"You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." - A. A. Milne



Katherine "Katie" Economopoulos will be graduating 8th grade from Mountain Trail Middle School. In school, Katherine was on the Principal's List all 8 quarters; participated in Student Government (StuGo); participated in the Mentors Program; was a member of National Junior Honor Society; and played on her school's softball team. Katherine is currently a member in National Charity League and has been her class' President and Parliamentarian. She has earned the Mother-Daughter Award; the Yellow Rosebud Award, and the Bronze Level President's Volunteer Service Award for her community service work. At Holy Trinity, Katherine has been part of the youth groups, the Greek dance program, Sunday School and Myrrhbearers. In her free time, Katherine likes to build things, bike and bake. In the fall, Katherine will be attending Pinnacle High School. Katherine's hope in the future is to obtain a career in engineering.

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." – Thomas Edison



Jackson Meyers is graduating 8th grade from All Saints Episcopal Day School. In school, Jackson played on the All Saints' football, basketball and baseball teams. In his free time, Jackson is a member of Boy's Team Charity, and plays on the Firebirds Tackle Football Club. In the fall, Jackson plans to attend Notre Dame Preparatory High School. Jackson hopes in the future to pursue a career as a sports analyst or color commentator.

The most important thing I have learned at this point in my life is to trust in God and He will show me the right way. - (John 3:16)



Isaiah "Teddy" Theodoropoulos is graduating 8th grade from Madison Meadows Middle School. In his free time, Teddy enjoys playing basketball. At Holy Trinity, Teddy participated in Sunday School, youth group programs, the Greek dance program, and attended the All Saints Camp. In the fall, Teddy will attend Metro-Tech High School. Teddy hopes to one day to be in the field of computer engineering or work for the NBA. Teddy lives by the idea of, "Never give up and never stop trying."

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. — (Isaiah 41:10)





Theodore "Theo" Annos will be graduating from Shadow Mountain High School. Theo is the recipient of the President's Award Scholarship. In school, Theo was on the Superintendent's Honor Roll; part of the Model Matador program; played baseball; and was in Yearbook. At Holy Trinity, Theo participated in Sunday School, the Greek dance and FDF programs, and participated in the youth group programs. In the fall, Theo plans to attend Arizona State University. Theo's future goal is to have a job creating software that will help people.

"The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something."

— Randy Pausch



Alexa Marie DeMoss will be graduating Magna Cum Laude from Notre Dame Preparatory. Alexa has been on the President's List all 4 years, and has received the Congressional Scholastic Achievement Award. In school, Alexa was active in National Honor Society; Notre Dame's Ambassadors program; and played on the varsity volleyball team. In her free time, Alexa was a part-time Tennis Coordinator for the Village Health Club Tennis Center. In the fall, Alexa will be attending Texas Christian University, Honors College.

In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. – (Proverbs 3:6)



Theodore V. Mousses will be graduating from Pinnacle High School. Theodore is the recipient of the New American University Scholarship. In school, Theodore was on the Varsity Swim Team for 3 years; and was part of National Honor Society. Through his swimming, Theodore took 4th place in the State Championships. In his free time, Theodore was part of Boys Team Charity. At Holy Trinity, Theodore participated in the Sunday School and the Greek dance program. In the fall, Theodore will be attending Arizona State University, where he will continue his education and hopes to discover his future career path.

"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall "



Vasili Stilianos Paul be graduating from Youngker High School. In school, Vasili lettered in Band, 4 bars for all four years; lettered in Orchestra, 3 bars for three years; was a member of Roughrider Regiment Emerald Winds indoor performance team; and performed in many marching band and concert band performances. Vasili earned the pink cord, signifying international recognition of commitment to band and artistic ability. In addition, Vasili performed in the Estrella Mountain Community Band; was part of many marching band competitions; and performed in solo and ensemble competitions for the clarinet. At Holy Trinity, he served in the altar, participated Sunday School program, was part of the youth groups, and had begun singing in the church choir. In his free time, Vasili enjoys fencing and taking hikes in the mountains with his family. In the fall, Vasili plans to attend Estrella Mountain Community College. He hopes to one day have a career as a professional musician and play in a symphony orchestra. Vasili likes to look at life in musical terms: things are better when they are upbeat.

The Lord does not see as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance but the Lord looks at the heart – (1 Samuel 16:7)



Aja Romano will be graduating with honors from Sunnyslope High School. At Holy Trinity, Aja participated in the Sunday School program, the youth programs, attended All- Saints Camp, and was part of the Greek dance and FDF competition programs. In the fall, Aja will attend the University of Arizona. Aja plans to major in Biomedical Science and Physiology. Her goal is to become a Pediatric Hematologist.

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. – (Isiah 40:31)



Memory

Alexandra Sampson was to

graduate from Sunrise Mountain High School. Alex loved Greek Dance. She performed at Holy Trinity's annual festival and competed at FDF every year. She also looked forward to All Saints Camp every summer. Alex was finishing up her last few classes as a high school senior, while working full time at a restaurant. Her plan was to attend Phoenix Community College, and then apply for the dental hygiene program at NAU. Alex had a vibrant personality and a contagious smile. She lived life to the fullest. Most of the time, she spoke her own language, which she created. But her favorite saying was "I think it's fine."

Alex will forever live in our hearts. May her memory be eternal.



Sophia Scaccia will be graduating from Xavier College Preparatory. In school, Sophia was on the Honor Roll; was a member of National Honor Society and National Honor Spanish Society; was a member of Student Ambassadors; was a member of Key Club; and was on the track and crosscountry teams. At Holy Trinity, Sophia participated in Sunday School, the Greek dance and FDF programs, and was part of the youth groups. In the fall, Sophia will attend the University of Arizona. Her goal is to own her own real estate agency in New York City.

"I am loved in times when I feel I am most un-loveable."



Valya Sedor will be graduating from Horizon High School. In school, Valya was on the Varsity Girls Tennis team. At Holy Trinity, she was involved in the Sunday School program. In the fall, Valya will be attending the Northern Arizona University program offered through Scottsdale Community College. Her goal is to become an interior designer. "Being accepted at NAU has given me a sense of real accomplishment."

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. – (Philippians 4:13)



Evanthia "Eva" Vardalos will be graduating from Sunrise Mountain High School. In school, Eva was part of her school's swim team, the Best Buddies Program, and a member of National Honor Society. Based on her academic performance, Eva was awarded the Lumberjack Scholarship, and plans to attend Northern Arizona University in the fall. At Holy Trinity, Eva volunteered with the Greek festival, participated in the Sunday School program, and was part of the Greek dance program. At St. Haralambos, Eva participated as a reader during Lenten services. Eva's future goal is to become a defense attorney.



James Wood will be graduating from Thunderbird High School. In school, James earned a varsity letter in swim; played baseball for three years; and participated for three years in the marching band. When not in school, James was busy working at Sprouts and Safeway, and playing a variety of sports. In the fall, James will be attending Glendale Community College, and plans to study anthropology and archaeology. James' goals are to travel the world and possibly discover new facts or aspects to already known ancient civilizations. "The most important thing I have learned at this point in my life is to believe in yourself through the good and bad times, and to always have trust in God and my family."

James's quote from when he was 6 years old is, "Heaven is in God's heart."



Tasso Annos is graduating Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in Business from the Arizona State University – W.P. Carey School of Business. Tasso graduates with high honors and was on the Dean's List in college.

When not in school, Tasso was involved in intramural sports. At Holy Trinity, Tasso was a Greek dance instructor, participated in the dance program and FDF competitions, and was an All Saints Camp Counselor. Tasso hopes to have a career creating ad campaigns for a marketing agency. His future goal is to run a successful ad campaign for a major corporation like Hulu or Nike.

"Don't be afraid to go after your dreams."



Nichole "Niki" Kyprianou is graduating with honors in Biological Anthropology from Boston University. Niki was on the Dean's List throughout all four years of college. She was awarded the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Award in 2018 for research focusing on the relationship between testosterone and immunity in men. While in school, Niki was a van driver for BU Student Food Rescue Program; part of BU's community service choir — BU On Broadway's Off Broadway (OBOB); a peer tutor at BU's educational resource center; and a Research Assistant at Dr. Hodges-Simeon's Lab studying testosterone and immunity. In the fall, Niki plans to attend Boston University School of Public Health. Her goal is to pursue a Masters in Science (MS) in global health research. Niki hopes to become a physician who serves underserved communities and conducts public health research.

"I have learned that everyone has the ability to touch other's lives in a way that makes a difference. We are all interconnected in a way that make each and every one of us matter. No matter how lost we may feel, maintaining our faith and keeping God in our lives will get us through any obstacle."

"God is a mystery. He is silence. He is infinite. He is everything. Everyone possesses this inclination of the soul for heaven. All people seek something heavenly. All beings turn towards Him, albeit unconsciously." — St. Porphyrin



Anastasia Pickett is graduating from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's degree in Physiology, and a minor in Studio Art with an emphasis in Photography. While at UofA, Anastasia was an active member of Chi Omega; Banner Chair for Chi Omega (1 year); Annual Volunteer for the Make-A-Wish Foundation; and Young Life Team Leader. When not in school, Anastasia was Incoming Inspector Intern at GECO Inc. in Mesa, AZ; Optometric Research Assistant at Family Optometry in Chandler, Arizona; OCF member in Austin, TX; Greek and Cypriot Society member in Austin, TX; and the Optometric Technician/Assistant Intern at Lakeline Vision Source in Austin, TX. This summer, Anastasia will be a counselor at the Metropolis of Boston Camp. Anastasia will be taking a gap year before attending optometry school, where she plans to pursue a specialization in Vision Therapy. Anastasia's goal is to move to the East Coast and open her own optometry practice with a specialization in vision therapy.

According to Anastasia, "the most important thing I have learned at this point in life is that you are who you surround yourself with and what you think you will become."

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. – (Psalm 51:10)



Thomas "Tommy" Michael Russell graduated with honors, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, and a minor in Greek Language/Studies. In school, Tommy worked part-time as a math tutor for Larson Textbooks; the largest and premier publisher of Mathematics textbooks in the country. Tommy's current plans are to move to Ithaca, NY, and continue to tutor math full-time. Tommy hopes to move into the editing of math textbooks; with his ultimate goal of one day writing the textbooks.

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!

Safe Travels!

We wish former OPA President Cindy Kyprianou, husband Dr. Andreas, and daughters Niki and Christina the very best as they move to Clearwater, FL.

The Yard on 05/27/2021





Sr. GOYA Event



YAL—Save-the-Date



All Saints Camp

Due to extenuating circumstances, there will be no All Saints Camp program this summer. For those wishing to participate in a summer camp program, the Metropolis Summer Camp (gosfyouth.org) will be online this July.



Also Available:

Sign your children up for
a Vacation Church School (VCS) program.

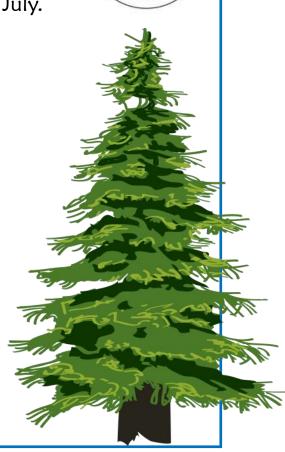
In the valley:
Assumption Church will hold their VCS

June 14-18.

All Saints Camp
WILL RETURN IN FULL
Summer 2022!

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us

at info@allsaintscamparizona.org.



Vacation Church School

Assumption Church

