Organization Contacts

- **AHEPA** — Col. Mike Torrealday: tdayf16@cox.net
- **All Saints Camp** — Evan Tsagaris: etsagaris89@gmail.com
- **Altar Servers** — Deacon John Thrasher, David Haag, Chris Francis: thresheraz@cox.net, davidmhaag@yahoo.com, battersbox7@yahoo.com
- **Bible Study** — Father Apostolos Hill: papoulihill@gmail.com
- **Bookstore** — Rita Papaspyrou: rzakher@gmail.com
- **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: juliapritsos@holytrinityacademyphx.org
- **HOPE & JOY** — Nikki Forman: ntheo426@hotmail.com
- **Little Lambs** — Angela Scopelianos: angelagarozzo@gmail.com
- **Maintenance** — Peter Biliatis, Ted Fourlis: htmaintenance1973@gmail.com
- **Myrrhbearers** — Stacey Beaty: staceybeaty@live.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: pkatsenes@cox.net
- **Sons of Pericles** — Greg Vassiliou, Ted Fourlis: sonsofpericles283@gmail.com
- **Jr. & Sr. GOYA** — Karla DeLord, Jacque Petroulakis: kpdelord@msn.com, jacquepetro@icloud.com
- **Stewardship** — Sandy Meris: sandymeris@gmail.com
- **Sunday School** — Kalli Schneider: kalliopischneider@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
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!

But if your family is leaving the area for any extended time, or even just one weekend, I challenge you to go to an Orthodox Church wherever you are. Not necessarily Greek Orthodox, it can be Russian, Antiochian, OCA, Serbian, Romanian, Bulgarian, and a few others. Going to another jurisdiction can be an eye-opening experience to witness the similarities through the small differences. Ask Fr. Apostolos or me for more information if you’d like, but do not take a vacation from God. We often wonder where God is when we need Him but then take long stretches of our year away from Him ourselves. This way of relating to God is no relationship but a vending machine for convenience! If we wish to come into relationship with Him, we cannot “be on a break.” God takes no breaks or vacations from loving us and our life should be a striving to be in constant relation with Him.

If our faith is something we do on occasion then we will only occasionally reap its benefits that are beyond number. It is no accident that we are all called to “asceticism” (a constant spiritual battle of prayer and fasting) which has its roots in the Greek word for exercise. If we exercise once a week or once a month, we should not be surprised when we don’t see results. If I take the Summer off from exercising, I should not expect to be in shape and in fact, when I try to begin working out again in the Fall, I certainly should not expect to begin where I left off. I will have to start again and build-up all the muscle I lost over the Summer. Every break we take from this relationship with God leaves us weaker and needing to start from square one, just as a break from exercise leaves us atrophied and in need of starting with lower weights and distances again.

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, WHY 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
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 **directly transferred** 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
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 resilient
  - 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


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR TO DATE</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2020 TO 2019 FULL YEAR COMPARISON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary Income &amp; Expense Statement</td>
<td>April YTD</td>
<td>2020 Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP/DONATIONS</td>
<td>$158,184.90</td>
<td>$477,505.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OTHER/MISC INCOME</td>
<td>$49,883.32</td>
<td>$117,939.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL INCOME</td>
<td>$202,068.22</td>
<td>$595,444.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PRIEST SALARY &amp; INSURANCE</td>
<td>$84,593.44</td>
<td>$215,588.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LITURGICAL EMPLOYEE &amp; CONTR.</td>
<td>$16,723.34</td>
<td>$64,077.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CONTRACTORS</td>
<td>$25,717.72</td>
<td>$77,278.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DIOCESE &amp; ARCH PAYMENTS</td>
<td>$8,993.49</td>
<td>$91,638.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OTHER/MISC EXPENSES</td>
<td>$33,033.34</td>
<td>$140,428.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REPAIRS &amp; MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>$5,323.38</td>
<td>$31,008.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL UTILITIES</td>
<td>$35,723.69</td>
<td>$123,699.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SUPPLIES</td>
<td>$6,766.59</td>
<td>$13,629.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SOCIALS/FUNDRAISING EXPENSES</td>
<td>$477.27</td>
<td>$14,229.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ALL EXPENSES</td>
<td>$221,082.86</td>
<td>$771,575.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET INCOME</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPP Loan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET INCOME (after PPP Loan Forgiveness)</td>
<td>$168,771.36</td>
<td>$40,418.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT PERFORMANCE</td>
<td>$238,289.04</td>
<td>$129,517.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
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

Scholarships

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.

St. Katherine’s Philoptochos
Alex Anagnopoulos, President

“FRIENDS OF THE POOR”
An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.
JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!
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: _______________________________________________
May 28, 2021
Holy Martyr Euthchius, Bishop of Melitene

Dear Clergy and Faithful of the Southwest Vicariate,

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! 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
Dorothy Ainslie
Peter & Sarah Agnos
Evan & Terri Alexon
Dena Anagnostopoulos
Mike & Alex Anagnostopoulos
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 Bichakas
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 Delos
Patrick & Karla Delord
Tom & Irene Demas
John & Mary Demetropoulos
Bill DeMoss
Charles DeMoss
Chris DeMoss
John & Marjorie DeMoss
Basil Denaxas
Stan & Fran Drozd
Denise Dye
Kathryn Dye
Christos & Dena Economopoulos
Fr. Alexander &
Pres. Laura Eliades
Zach & Nikki Forman
Athanasia Fourli
Ted & Andi Fourli
Tim Frenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
George Frie
Andreianna 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 &
Pres. Denise Hill
Michael & Veronica Hill
Bessie Hotis
Jason & Ekaterini Jaynes
Pavlos Kairis
James & Linda Kalivas
Peter & Nicole Kamboukos
Vasilios & Angela Kamboukos
Basile & Roula Kaneris
Rick & Dena Kataros
William & Harriet Kapolas
Vasilios & Vasiliki Karagiannis
Christina Karakalas
Pete & Tina Karegeannes
Virginia Karegeannes
Julie Karoutas
Leon & Fayi Katrakis
Christos & Kelley Katsanos
John & Mary Katsenes
Paul & Lori Katsenes
George Katsaros
Helen Katsoufrakis
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
Stacie McKenzie
Angela Mead
Joanne Meris
Will & Sandy Meris
Angeline Miller

House of Stewards Continued on page 12
House of Stewards continued from page 11

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 holytrinityphx.org.
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.
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](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!

---

**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
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
The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday.

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 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
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!

Lost & Found

The Narthex now has a lost and found! If you have lost anything during one of our services please ask the Narthex volunteers before service and they will direct you to the Lost & Found.

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!

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

HTC on Facebook

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

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

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

Service Project
Young Adults

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

St. Mary’s Food Bank

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
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.
2021 Graduates

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)
2021 Graduates

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 will 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. — (Isaiah 40:31)
2021 Graduates

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 cross-country 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)
2021 Graduates

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.”
2021 Graduates

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 chair – 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 UoA, 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/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.
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

Valley Senior GOYA

Senior GOYA TopGolf

Sunday, June 6 | 1 PM
TopGolf Scottsdale

Join High Schoolers from around the Valley for a fun afternoon at TopGolf!

RSVP to Fr. Alexander by June 1
(aeliades@holytrinityphx.org)

YAL—Save-the-Date

Exclaim

Arizona

Labor Day Weekend
YAL 2021
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.