

Desert Springs

September 2021
Volume 6 Issue 8



Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

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Rev. Alexander Eliades
Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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

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The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays, 12 noon

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Jim Manelis—Treasurer
Dina Anagnopoulos—Assistant Treasurer
Andi Fournalis—Secretary
Charlie DeMoss, Sandy Meris,
Socrates Papadopoulos

Holy Trinity Cathedral Website
www.holyltrinityphx.org

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

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- **Desert Diamonds (50+)** — Julie Karoutas: juliekaroutas@gmail.com
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- **Feed Those in Need** — Christine Stamatis: cstamatis@cox.net
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Message from Father Apostolos

“I Don’t Want to Go to School!”



As a child you most likely remember saying this line, or if you’re a parent, you’re perhaps sick of this line. When we blessed our children for the new school year a few weeks ago, I asked if they were excited to return to school and was met with a predictable groan and some verbal discontent.

We expect this about school but there is no question in our minds: our kids will go to school! It’s important for them to learn, even when it’s hard, even when they don’t want to, even when WE don’t want to bring them!

“But I don’t understand it! It’s boring! I don’t like it! I’d rather play here at home or with my friends!”

We hear these protestations about school but we also most likely hear it another time....

When we wake up Sunday morning and we ask about church we most likely hear similar things to what we hear on bad school days. The only difference may be our reaction. For school days we talk about the importance of learning, the importance of doing the work even when it doesn’t make sense and how these difficult and sometimes boring things are how we learn and progress in life! We can go on and on about why school is important and we send them out the door (on time).

Are your Sunday mornings similar? Do we speak about why we go to church or do we give in to these grievances? “Ok kids, next Sunday though! Ok sleep in another 30 minutes and we’ll get there at the end...” This is something we would never imagine doing on a school day, never mind multiple days in a row.

When we see church as something we just “do,” as a social place to see friends, or as a place I need to be perfect in (and I don’t feel perfect so I shouldn’t go), we miss the point. To go for these reasons ALONE is to perpetuate a misunderstanding about God and Church.

We go to church to worship God who created us, to learn to love God who loves us more than we can comprehend, to receive His Body and Blood that He told us is how He LIVES in us. We go to church for God. Not for the things we do, not for Sunday School (but you should register!), not for dance (but you should dance!), not for Coffee Hour (but join us!), not even to “feel good” about ourselves. We go to church to worship God and let Him dictate our lives because only then will we be true followers of Christ and only then will we find peace, love, and true comfort. We come to church to love God and be loved by Him. Even when we don’t feel it, even when we don’t understand it, our presence there in seeking to learn will enrich us.

Even when it’s hard, especially when it’s hard, come to church. Come to church for God. The other things are great byproducts of following Christ, but we can find ALL these other things elsewhere. You will not and cannot find God in His fullness anywhere else and in the end, nothing comes close to mattering as much as our eternal fate: do we spend it with our God who we came to know and love, or apart from Him because our entire life we choose to not be with Him?

In Christ,

Father Alexander Eliades

Why 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

Stewardship

By Sandy Meris



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

LET'S TALK ABOUT "THE 'T' WORD"

Let's talk about a word that we don't use often at Holy Trinity. It is not a profane word but it is one that we tend to shy away from because it makes us uncomfortable. I call it "**the 't' word.**" *But, it is time to break the cycle and start using this word when we talk about stewardship. The word is "tithe."*

When it comes to stewardship we encourage our parishioners to "give what you can give" or "follow your heart" or "sacrificial giving." But the Bible and Jesus were extremely clear on the point of how much one should give to the church. Christ actually relieves us of any guessing and contemplating when it comes time to fill out our annual pledge card. The Lord calls us to **tithe** which means to give 10% of our income to the church.

For some this may come as a shock. And that is ok. Let's wade in slowly together, one step at a time. But while we are getting used to hearing and using the word, let's understand that this is a concept that is not new nor is it going away. We need to push ourselves out of our comfort zone and remember that "nothing changes if nothing changes." We can remain complacent and content with the status quo. But doesn't Holy Trinity deserve better than the status quo? Doesn't our church deserve our best? Our first fruits?

In Holy Scripture we do not see references to "dues" but we do find many references to the tithe. The tithe is an obligation to give at least 10% of our blessings. Notice the words are "at least" and notice that it is giving 10% of ALL of our first fruits and blessings. That includes our time and our talents, as well as our treasures.

An endless number of Scripture passages make it clear that our obligation of stewardship over God's many gifts to us is to give in proportion to the blessings we have received. Indeed the Parable of Talents from Matthew 25:14-30 is all about taking whatever gifts God gives us, putting them out into the world and causing them to multiply, and then giving them back in proportion to what we earned in order to receive the reward of hearing: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much."

So where does Holy Trinity stand in terms of our individual giving? Recently we had a Financial Stewardship Analysis conducted on our church. ***In 2018, the median pledge was \$510 which equates to 0.8% of income to stewardship. *In 2019, our parishioners' median pledge increased to about \$600 per family which means we pledged about 1% of our income to stewardship.** Clearly, this is a far cry from a tithe or a 10% pledge. These numbers may be difficult to accept but until we know the truth and see the facts for themselves we can't improve.

The Parish Regulations of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in Article 18 Section 1 states: "**Stewardship is recommended to be 10% of one's annual income as stated in Holy Scripture to help meet the financial obligations of the Parish, the Metropolis and the Archdiocese.**" The OCA has also adopted the tithe as the vehicle to fund their Dioceses.

Stewardship Message continued on page 6

Desert Springs September 2021

Stewardship Message continued from page 5

I believe we can become a tithing parish. I believe we all have it in us to tithe. And while we work towards that and until we reach that goal, let us commit to being a percentage giving parish on our way to becoming a tithing parish. Can you increase our giving by a minimum of 1% each year over the next 10 years? Can you find new ways to donate your time and talents to the church?

Let's challenge ourselves to get comfortable with "the 't' word" and pray for guidance in helping Holy Trinity Cathedral to become a tithing parish.

**These figures are based on the 2019 median annual income of all people in Phoenix which was \$57,957. A 10% tithe would equate to a pledge of \$5,796.*

MINISTRY SUNDAY

Sunday, September 12, During Coffee Hour

Please join us for our annual Ministry Sunday on ***Sunday, September 12th*** during Coffee Hour. This is an opportunity for our ministries to host tables and showcase all of the wonderful things they do in the community and for our parish.

It also gives our parishioners an opportunity to sign up, get involved and possibly check out a new ministry.
Challenge yourself to join something new!



Endowment Fund

+ THE HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL ENDOWMENT FUND +

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

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

Over the course of the past twenty-nine years the committee has held steadfast to this mission, and as a result, generous donors from our Church, desiring to leave a legacy *in perpetuity* for their family, have made contributions totaling \$588,140.

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

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

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

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

+ ENDOWMENT GIFTS OVER \$10,000.00 +

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

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

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

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER \$1,000.00

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss,

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

Endowment Fund

GIFT DONATION FORM

Please list my endowment gift as follows: _____

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

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

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Donor, please sign and keep a copy for your records

*TOD = transfer on death

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

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

Thank You, and + God Bless You + for your generosity.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral + 1973 E Maryland Phoenix AZ 85016

Blessings New School Year!

August 8, 2021



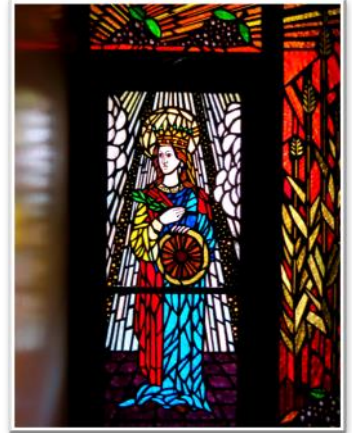
Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, President

"FRIENDS OF THE POOR"

An organization where membership is an honor & a privilege.

JOIN & ENRICH YOUR LIFE!



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

**September Meeting on
Thursday, September 2, 2021**

6:00pm

Cathedral

6:30pm

Speros Community Center



**October Meeting on
Thursday, October 14, 2021**

6:30pm

Speros Community Center

The 2021-2023 Board:

PRESIDENT - Alex Anagnopoulos

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT - Kristen Vasilarakos

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT - Cathy Keyser

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Lois Sakkas

RECORDING SECRETARY - Georgi Friehe

TREASURER - Patty Davis

ASSISTANT TREASURER - Georgia Furlis

ADVISOR - Mary Louise Theodoropoulos

Bessie Hotis, Julie Karoutas,

Julie Mamani, Zoe Pestrivas,

Connie Venetis

JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2021

We are the right hand of the Church! We would like you to know that membership to Philoptochos *IS IMPORTANT* for our community, the Archdiocese and Metropolis.

Invitation to Philoptochos:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT: _____

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

Mail your membership to:

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

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos



Holy Trinity Cathedral's St. Katherine Chapter Board is pictured with Fr. Andrew Barakos and Metropolis of SFO AZ Liaison Kathy Connell at the Arizona Chapters Board Meeting held 08/31/2021 at Assumption GOC in Scottsdale.

Chapter Focus on Local Charities

In an effort to engage our membership in the Philoptochos mission to 'Help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, those with disabilities and the victims of disaster', and to expand involvement locally, we include, as a new part of our monthly program, **the opportunity for members to formally nominate and select charity recipients.**

Bill Marianes, who assisted with the Cathedral's "Why Statement", reminds us that **the more money extended out into our community, the more we will realize from the community back into our church.**

Look for updates as we implement this exciting program!

Our Chapter Gave Out **\$5,000** in Scholarships!

The ladies of Philoptochos were pleased to offer **three \$1,000 and four \$500** scholarships to our Holy Trinity Cathedral students for the fall of 2021.

When you support Philoptochos, you are supporting many projects and charities like the student scholarships we give each year. We are so proud and pleased for each of these outstanding students.



OCTOBER 8-10, 2021

GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING & MORE

FRIDAY, OCT 8
5pm - 10pm

SATURDAY, OCT 9
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY, OCT 10
11am - 6pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix | phoenixgreekfestival.org |

ADMISSION

\$5.00 - for an entire day of fun

Children under 12 free

Seniors over 60:

FREE Saturday from

11:00am - 3:00pm

*No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)

PARKING

Free Parking at

Charles Schwab -
24th St. & Lincoln.

Shuttles every 15 minutes

\$5.00 to park in
church parking lot



EAT . DANCE . SHOP . PLAY

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines
Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market
Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.

Original Phoenix Greek Festival

October 8, 9, & 10, 2021

You knew it was coming, but here it is officially, see you in October!



PHOENIXGREEKFESTIVAL.ORG

Home - The Original Phoenix Greek Festival

Click [HERE](#) for the [Original Phoenix Greek Festival Site!](#)

2021 Greek Festival is On!

The longest-running, largest ethnic festival in the Valley resumes with Greek food, music, dancing, jewelry, art, grocery items and activities for kids at the

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox

Speros Community Center

1973 E. Maryland Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85016

Friday, Oct. 8, 5pm – 10pm

Saturday, Oct. 9, 11am – 10pm

Sunday, Oct. 10, 11am - 6pm

Admission \$5.00 for an entire day of food and fun. Children under 12 free.

Seniors 60+ free Saturday 11am – 3pm only.

For information, please go to www.phoenixgreekfestival.org.

The Phoenix Greek Festival is run entirely by volunteers. Proceeds benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral ministries, including youth programs that build camaraderie, character and commitment to community. The philanthropic arm of the church aids UMOM, Kids 'n' Cancer and other community charities.



Volunteering leads to good times with family, old friends, and newly-made friends!

Festival Baking

August Production Variety

Photos by various community members



Altar Boys

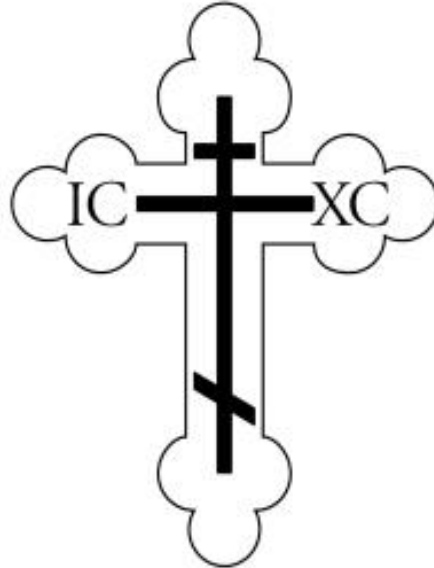
Contact Chris Francis at battersbox7@yahoo.com for more information.



2021-2022 Altar Boy Schedule

St. Basil the Great - Group 1

- Basil Contes
- Cassian Contes
- Pantelis Petroulakis
- David Pyle
- Christos Zarkadas
- Jonny Zarkadas



St. John Chrysostom - Group 2

- Jack Choukalas
- Ryan Choukalas
- Costa Herrera
- Andoni Michalak
- Ari Vardalos

St. Gregory the Theologian - Group 3

- Nick Beaty
- Nicholas Daniolos
- Costa DeMoss
- Marsel Dimitrandis
- Alexander Petsas

Aug. 2021	Sept. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	Dec. 2021	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022
22 Group 1	5 Group 3	3 Group 1	7 Group 2	5 Group 3	2 Group 3	6 Group 2	6 Group 3	3 Group 1	1 Group 1
29 Group 2	12 Group 1	10 Open	14 Group 3	12 Group 1	9 Group 1	13 Group 3	13 Group 1	10 Group 2	8 Group 2
	19 Group 2	17 Group 2	21 Group 1	19 Group 2	16 Group 2	20 Group 1	20 Group 2	17 Group 3	15 Group 3
	26 Group 3	24 Group 3	28 Group 2	26 Open	23 Group 3	27 Group 2	27 Group 3	24 PASCHA	22 Open for
		31 Group 1			30 Group 1				rest of the Summer

Attention Organizations:

Please check the Organization Contacts listings on page 2 of this issue and confirm that the information is correct, including contact name.

Email is the default contact type, but listings can be changed to texting or telephoning if preferred.

Email any changes to both the Office at AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org and Kristen at kvasilarakos@cox.net.

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

Thank you!



Sunday School

Kathy New, Director



Sunday School hosted Coffee Hours in August.

Sunday School Begins August 12, 2021!

For the first time in many years, all classes will be held in the Education Building.

Register your children today, now on-line!
Click [here](#) to complete the registration form!

Our new director, Kathy New is excited to lead us with the aid of our former director, Kalli Schneider and Fr. Alexander Eliades, and advised by Dr. Andi Fournalis (Superintendent of Mesa Schools).

Supplemented by an exciting new curriculum and a new crop of teachers, it sure to be a fruitful year for our youth to learn about their faith! If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in some capacity, please contact Fr. Alexander.



Small Group Ministry Meetings

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in their midst."
Matthew 18:20



Home-base Small Group Ministry has been a part of the Christian experience from the very beginning. St. Luke writes the the first Christians *"met together in the Temple day by day and shared their meals together in different homes, sharing their food happily and freely."* Personal relationships are the cornerstone of Christian life as we seek to imitate the love Christ has for us to the entire world.

Do you ever feel like the Cathedral is a bit large and you don't even know who the fellow parishioner is that that has sat in the pew across from you for 4 years and at this point you're too afraid to ask? Simply new to the parish and want to get to know others better?

Our Holy Trinity Cathedral is pleased to launch our own Home-based Small Group Ministry this fall to better facilitate these relationships in our parish family! Fellowship and relationship-building is the aim of this ministry as we share our love for and faith in Jesus Christ as Orthodox Christians.

We have a wonderful blueprint for our meetings that will make our times together wonderfully fruitful. Thank God, we already have four host families to get us started! Each group is free to establish its own meeting schedule and format as we get to know our newer parish members or expand our circle of friends. If you are interested in being a host or participating let us know! Training will be provided for leaders so have no fear to take on the task!

Email Fr. Apostolos by [clicking here](#) to join a group or lead!

Sermon with a Sword

August 8, 2021



Music Ministry

“Notes”

By Terri Alexon, Choir Director



“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

Hebrews 2:12

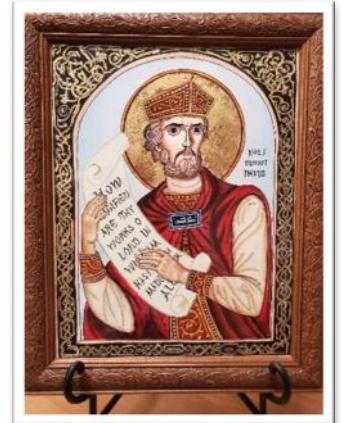
Shortly after returning to singing during Divine Liturgy, the Cathedral Choir was doubly blessed to have some new voices join the Music Ministry! As an integral part of their journey to become Orthodox, newlyweds Tristan and Alana Stoutenburg ventured up to the loft to add their bass and soprano voices to sing.



“Attending Holy Trinity’s Pascha service this past spring renewed my relationship with God and refocused my vision,” Alana said. “I had never felt the presence of the Holy Trinity so strongly as during Pascha.” Her husband, Tristan, grew up in a musical family with a father who is a professional musician. “Singing in the choir has shown me some ancient patterns in hymnography, such as the centrality of voice and the stillness of the eison.”

Tristan is a software engineer at Cardinal Financial, a mortgage

company. In his spare time, Tristan enjoys reading old books and screenplays. Alana is a registered nurse who is developing a craft of woodcarving and painting icons. She donated to the choir loft her most recent painting of King David who wrote the Book of Psalms.



Tristan and Alana are currently fixing up an old house in Phoenix in anticipation of their first baby!



Another important addition to the choir is a trio of young ladies with a passion for singing. Ranging in age from about 7 to 9 years old are three girls—Margaret, Natalia, and Olivia. Besides glorifying the Lord, their vocal presence has sparked a renewed enthusiasm and hope for the future of the church's music ministry. For more information on how you can join the choir, contact Terri Alexon by email at htchoirdirector@holyltrinityphx.org or by telephone at 480-233-2416.

Maintenance Corner

By Ted Furlis

htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com



The Maintenance Committee has been very busy lately. The new lighting project in the dome is complete. 56 fixtures and 112 bulbs were converted to LED lighting. 80% of the fluorescent bulbs were burned out. Now we have hard wired LED bulbs giving off beautiful light and saving us in electrical costs.

Thank you to the Young Adult group and Father Alexander for assisting in moving the pews to gain access for the lift! See the photos on the next page!

The Valonis Bros continue to change out our older lighting to the newer and more efficient LED lighting around our campus. They also cleaned and readied the Sunday School rooms so our youth would be welcomed into clean and sanitized classrooms.

The storms brought damage to our campus. We had roof leaks in the Cathedral and a large tree by the patio was uprooted and caused damage to our roofing over the patio. We are working with the roofing vendor to fix the Cathedral leaks and we were able to fill and coat the roof damage with new roofing material over the patio.



Many thanks to Paul Katsenes, Jim Contes, John Katsaros, Ted Furlis, Tom Giatron and Paul & Dimitri Valonis for all their efforts.

The AHEPAs from Chapter 219 really stepped up. We are thankful to the AHEPA Educational and Cultural Foundation who donated \$3500 to replace the broken ice maker in our Community Center kitchen. Costa Tzavaras donated \$2500 for new coffee makers and warmers as ours had seen the end of their life span. Costa also contributed a new washer & dryer as our old units could not keep up. Thank you Costa!

Pete Marudas also donated another washer & dryer to the Community Center to assist with the washing and drying needs that the Valonis 'Bros' manage for our community.

We have many more projects in process. If you would like to contribute to the Maintenance Committee to assist in our work please memo your donation to the Maintenance Committee.

The Maintenance Committee will be busy preparing for our Festival.

Please reach out to:

Ted Furlis at 602-625-8835 or

Peter Bilitsis at 602-317-7780

if you would like to volunteer and assist in our efforts.

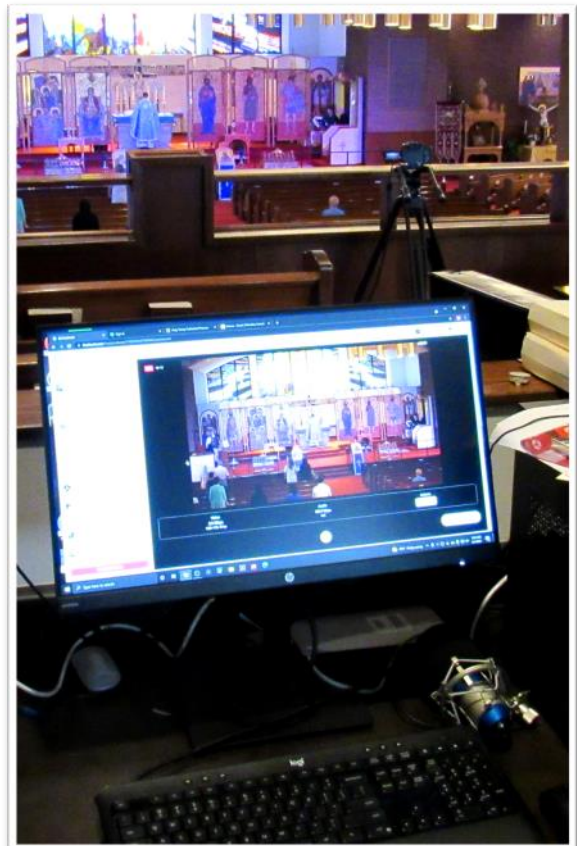
New Lighting!



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 *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



08/14/2021

Aja Romano

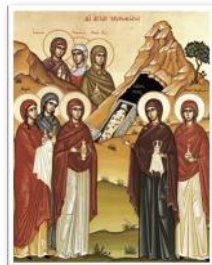
Godparents are Nikki & Zach Forman

God's Blessings be upon her.

Funeral

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever.”

Psalms 23:6



08/12/2021

Christy Zacharos

May his memory be eternal.

08/17/2021

Florian Nichols

May her memory be eternal.



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.

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!



Dormition of the Theotokos

Masks Appreciated

In accordance with current CDC guidance, the Holy Trinity community strongly recommends that everyone (vaccinated and unvaccinated) wear face masks inside the Church. As a reminder, my mask is for you and yours is for me. In this time of high transmission of a highly infectious strain, we have the opportunity to show our Christianity and wear masks to make the community as safe as it can be. This is a time for the parishioners of Holy Trinity to practice empathy and compassion for our most vulnerable members—our youth, those not vaccinated, and those who are vaccinated but immune compromised (and therefore at elevated risk levels). Thank you!

Fr. Apostolos & Fr. Alexander

Parish Council Upcoming Elections

In the fall of each year, we Holy Trinity Cathedral Stewards elect up to five new Parish Council members.

If you are interested or have any questions about running for the Parish Council, please contact Natalie in the Cathedral office 602-264-7863 and we can provide you with the application.



Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners
and their guests



Dear Desert Diamond & Friends,

Mark your calendars for our September outing:

Date: Wednesday, **September 15, 2021**

Time: 10:00am Brunch

Location: **First Watch Restaurant**

3215 E. Camelback Rd. (Camelback East Village)

Phoenix, AZ 85018 (SE corner)

602.955.3447



We have a wonderful year planned. Please be sure to attend the Ministry Sunday Expo to receive your copy of the year's events and to update your contact information. Have a wonderful Summer.

With Christ's love,
Julie Karoutas

email: juliekaroutas@gmail.com

cell: 623-313-8720 call or text

PS: Please be sure to invite your friends

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!



HTC on Facebook

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



St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

Submitted by Rita Papaspyrou

The month of September allows us the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary Commemorated on September 8th.

The Feast commemorates the birth of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord.



According to the story found in the Book of James book, Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna, were childless for many years. They remained faithful to God, but their prayers for a child were unanswered. One day, when Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, Joachim retreated to the hill country to live among the shepherds and their flocks.

As Joachim was praying, his wife Anna was praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. An angel appeared to both of them and announced that Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. Anna promised to offer her child as a gift to the Lord. Joachim returned home, and in due time Anna bore a daughter, Mary.

In this event, another step is made in sacred history in preparation for the entrance of Christ into the world.

The icon and the feast also acknowledge a transition from barrenness to life. This was but another foreshadowing of what would be offered through Christ, the transformation from death to eternal life.

ST. NECTARIOS BOOKSTORE

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

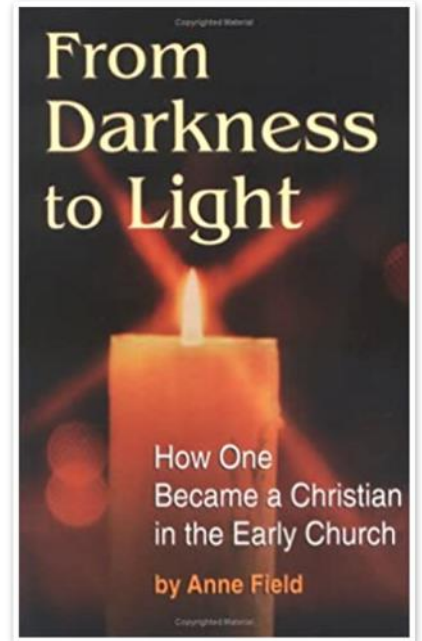
A photograph of a bookshelf filled with books and icons. The books are arranged on the shelves, and several icons are displayed on top of the shelves. The background is dark, and the text is white.

Parish-wide Catechism

From Darkness to Light

How did one become a Christian in the Early Church? How did Church Fathers such as St. John Chrysostom, St. Cyril of Alexandria, and St. Ambrose of Milan teach the Orthodox Faith to new converts? What did the process of embracing Jesus Christ entail in the Apostolic Age and what were new converts expected to learn?

Anne Field has compiled these early Christian texts from the Holy Fathers into a single volume we will begin examining in September in our Parish-wide Catechism Ministry. The book can be found [here](#) or from other online sources. Fr. Apostolos will teach this weekly one-hour Zoom class Saturdays at 9:00am for 10 weeks starting in September.



Parish-wide Catechism is provided for our entire parish family, catechumens and seekers and for everyone eager to continually explore the Holy Orthodox Faith and to deepen their love for and knowledge of God! If you are interested, [email Fr. Apostolos here!](#)

Bible Study: Paul's Pastoral Letters to Timothy and Titus

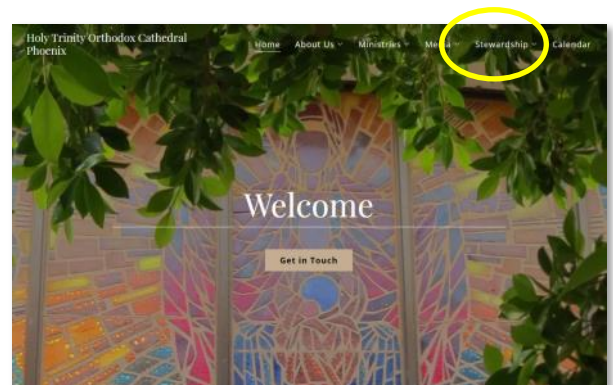
When we list off the books of the New Testament we tend to fall off after we finish all the names of the cities that Paul wrote to: Corinthians, Thessalonians, Colossians, etc. but we do ourselves a great disservice to stop here. In the 3 "Pastoral Epistles" of Paul written to his disciples Timothy and Titus, we read unique and powerful letters about the Church, doctrine, and praxis. Paul's letters to two of his disciples who he loved so deeply grant us a different approach to understanding our faith than his other letters.



Join Fr. Alexander as we journey through these letters and learn what it means to, "preach the Word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2). Bible Study will take place every **Monday evening at 7pm starting September 13** in a hybrid format. Fr. Alexander will be in the Church Office Conference Room while also offering a log-in on Zoom for those unable to join in person. If you are interested, [email Fr. Alexander by clicking here!](#)

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!

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



AHEPA Chapter 219



OUR NEXT MEETING

"Steak Night"
Thursday
September 16, 2021
6:30 pm

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

The annual HTGOC Greek Festival will take place on 8-10 October and you are encouraged to visit Chapter 219's Tiffani's Taverna to show your support.

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

Saturday Baking in September!

Mark your calendars now for a Festival baking day on **Saturday, September 11, 2021!**

Koulourakia!



FESTIVAL BAKING

All baking begins at 9 am
in the Speros Center



- BREAD
Sept. 3
- BAKLAVA
Sept. 9 & 10
- KOULOURAKIA
Sept. 11
- MELOS
Sept. 13, 14, 23 & 24
- KOURAMBIEDES
Sept. 21 & 22
- PACKING
Sept. 27, 28, 29 & 30



House of Stewards

Through 08/26/2021

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
Dr. Nicholas Baziotes
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
Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos
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 Drozd
Denise Dye
Kathryn Dye
Christos & Dena
Economopoulos
James & Lisa Ellam
Fr. Alexander &
Presv. Laura Eliades
Greg & Helen Fernandez
Zach & Nikki Forman
Athanas & Georgia Fournalis
Athanasia Fournalis
Ted & Andi Fournalis
Tim Fraenkel
Chris & Celeste Francis
Georgi Friehe
George & Julie Froumis
Niki Ganolis
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
Catherine Hallerich
Donald Hall
Alexander Harding
George & Patsy Harris
Terry Harper
George Hasiotis
Stephanie Heckel
Greg Hill
Rev. Fr. Apostolos &
Presv. Denise Hill
Michael & Veronica Hill
Bessie Hotis
Jason & Ekaterini Jaynes
Markos & Maggie Karakozis
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 Katsufraakis
Jim & Poppy Kavouris
Fanny Kechajias
Cathy Keyser
Ronald & Virginia Kidd
Emily Kimmell
Maria Kompos
Anastasia Kompos
Spiros & Maria Kontakis
Art & Carol Kostaras
Kostadinos & Anatoli Kostouros
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
Phyllis Mack
Maria Maciejewski
Joanna Mackos
Marika Makridis
Margarita Makris
Julie & Felix Mamani
Jim & Donna Manelis
Bette Maniatis
Maria Maniatis
Anna Manos
Bill & Rina Marinakos

House of Stewards Continued on page 28

Desert Springs September 2021

House of Stewards continued from page 27

Nicholas Marino	Gabriella Papatzimas	James & Christina Speros
Douglas Markakis	Daniel & Anna Pardhe	Jim & Kathryn Stamadianos
Mary Lou Mastorakos	Athena Parmenter	Gerry & Nitsa Stamatelatos
Pamela Maydanis	Kai & Katherine Pedersen	Andy & Christine Stamatis
Peter & Christina Maydanis	John & Dina Pesognelli	Chris Tapas
Stacie McKenzie	Dean & Fotini Pestrivas	Despina Tavlarides
Angela Mead	Zoe Pestrivas	Billy & Becky Tavlarides
Joanne Meris	Chris Petroulakis	Nicholas & Effie Theodore
Will & Sandy Meris	Jacque Petroulakis	Gus & Mary Louise
Angeline Miller	Bill & Kathy Petsas	Theodoropoulos
Paul Miller	Michael & TeAnn Philippis	Jim G. Thomas
Bill & Jean Miller	Brian & Athena Pickett	John & Teresa Thomas
Anthony Mioloqos	Mary Ann Pikulas	Rev. Fr. John &
Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell	Andreas & Mary Poulakidas	Diak. Mary Thrasher
Dino Moschovitis	George & Kay Poulos	Dominic Tropea
Phillip & Helen Mitchell	Panagiotes & Anthipe Pries	Thad & Kathy Tropea
Matthew & Sophie Neumann	Chris & Juli Pritsos	Dean & Stella Tsantilas
Jerry & Kathy New	Nicole Pyle	Dimitri Tsioutsopoulos
John & Maria Nicholas	Bertha Quinn	Sotiros & Nicki Tsioutsopoulos
Evelyn Nickalew	Lyda Rabbitt	Costa & Koko Tzavaras
Anthony Nicoluzakis	Greg Sackos	George & Connie Venetis
Annamarie Nieblas	Lois Sakkas	Teresa Valonis
Marta Ntatsos	Jim & Donna Sampanes	Peter & Lindsay Vardalos
Pamela & Jeffrey Nolen	James & Dimitra Sampson	Kristen Vasilarakos
Else Paletsos	Paul Sarantes	Argyro Vasquez
Elizabeth Palmer	John Schneider	Scott & Terri Vaughn
Anna Panagiotakopoulos	George & Angela Scopelianos	John & Jean VDalPan
Thanasi & Melissa	Diane Sedlacek	Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis
Panagiotakopoulos	Chris & Terry Seretis	Steve & Mary Vrahas
Sofia Panagiotoglou	George & Traci Sgouros	Catherine Wallerich
Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou	Risa Shaver	Colin and Paula Walsh
George & Chrysoula	John Siavelis	Michael & Christina Wombacher
Papadopoulos	Elyse Sioles	Richard & Katina Wood
Socrates & Stephanie	Robert & Donna Sioles	David Worrell &
Papadopoulos	George & Evi Skintzis	Stephanie Willard
Betty Papas	Elias & Phyllis Skoubis	Dimitri & Eugenia Zannis
Nick Papas	Elias & Theodora Staikos	George & Tina Zannis
Spyros & Rita Papaspyrou	Carol Sowers	Zella Zannis
Irene Pappas	Angelo & Marie Spanos	Evangeline Zikos
John & Andrea Pappas	Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos	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. 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 holyztrinityphx.org.

Greek School

Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director
Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher
phxgreeksschool@gmail.com



We at Holy Trinity Greek School deeply believe in the importance of learning and preserving the Greek Language and Culture. The students attending Greek School for eight months (September-May) learn, write, and read with special attention to Greek Culture. Throughout the year the students are exposed to Greek Culture in many ways: they discuss religious holidays and customs, learn history, cooking regional traditional dishes, mythology, and arts. Our school presents three cultural programs during the year, one in December to celebrate the Holidays, one in March to honor the Greek Independence Day, and the last by the end of May during graduation. All programs are greatly enjoyed by our students and give them the opportunity to show off their abilities in cooking, poetry, music, and dancing, for all family and friends. If you are not familiar with our Greek School here is a brief outline of our program:

PK/K: The students learn the sound system and basic vocabulary in a fun and a happy environment. Children as young as four years old can start Greek School.

Level 1: This Level makes the transition from a purely speaking class to the reading and writing format. The students learn the Greek Alphabet, reading, writing, vocabulary and phrases leading to conversation.

Level 2: The students are able to read sentences, write and spell and use basic conversation. Grammar is introduced.

Level 3: Longer texts are introduced. The students study vocabulary, spelling and conversation. Grammar is taught in detail. Geography, history, mythology is a very important part in all levels

όλα καλά; We hope you are fine and could get a bit of a holiday feeling during the past month(s). Greek School will be starting a new year of new activities, cooking lessons, new regions of Greece, and new songs to share with all of you!

Greek School starts September 22 at 5pm with a NEW Preschool class at 4pm.

We wish you a wonderful month of September, καλό μήνα!



[Registration](#)

[Calendar](#)

Contact Irene for forms if these links do not open on your device.

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Caroline Economopoulos, President



Are you getting the weekly
OPA Newsletter?

OPA communicates primarily through email,
via our email newsletter.

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

It's easy, just email your information
ciecomom@gmail.com,
and we'll get you added to list!

LUNCHEON

All are invited to the
OPA Luncheon

Sunday, September 12th

In the Large Hall after Divine Liturgy

\$5.00 suggested donation

Children ages 16 and under – free

Youth Night

August 28, 2021



HT Youth Night

OPA Coffee Hours



Thank you!

Thank you to all who attended & helped make the first HT Youth Night of the year such a success!

And thank you to



The Next Youth Night



ALL SAINTS CAMP PRESENTS

valley youth night

FOR ALL YOUTH, GRADES 1-12

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
4:30 - 8:00 PM

HOSTED AT:
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
1973 E. MARYLAND AVENUE | PHOENIX 85016

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT INFO@ALLSAINTSCAMPARIZONA.ORG
RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 12

Ready. Set. EXCLAIM!
Happening THIS
Weekend!

We look forward to sharing
This exciting weekend with
you soon.



Sr. GOYA

Weekly Sr. Goya Meetings

Every week, beginning on September 12 at 7pm our High Schoolers will meet with Fr.

Alexander for 1 hour to go through the Relationship Project. Please RSVP to Fr. Alexander at aeliades@holyltrinityphx.org if you would like your child to join!

Little Lambs Parade



Little Lambs Festival Parade

Performances

Saturday & Sunday mornings
of the festival.

For all children 5 and under.

NOTE: Children in Kindergarten and older
will perform and practice with the dance groups.

If interested,

want to rent attire,

or want to learn more,

please contact Angela

angelagarozzo@gmail.com

or [913.638.5991](tel:913.638.5991).



Who could have imagined that 2020 would have changed our world so much? It feels surreal. With all these changes and challenges, our teens have been affected the most. This is a time in their lives when connection with others is so important, and the isolation brought on by the pandemic has been devastating.

But, we have a solution!

If you are a teenager or young adult, this is for you!

The Metropolis of San Francisco has gifted this program to each parish in our Metropolis. Faithtree Resources developed The Relationship Project, a six-month program divided into three areas – Understanding Identity, Understanding Intimacy, and Understanding Mental Health. The Metropolis Family Wellness Ministry will support the implementation of this life-changing program.

Faithtree

What is Faithtree Resources?

Faithtree Resources is a nonprofit organization that works with dozens of Pan-Orthodox hierarchs, clergy, professionals and faithful to create uniquely Orthodox resources to supplement

Greek Dance

The Holy Trinity Dance Program is back & practices are underway!

Click on image for a dance registration form.

If you are interested in the dance program, have questions, or want to receive dance emails, please contact Niko Panagiotakopoulos:
call/text: (602) 469-2039
npanos01@yahoo.com



Click [HERE](#) for a Registration Form

Dance Schedule:

Wednesday, September 1 – 7:00-8:30 Dance Practice

Sunday, September 5 – **NO Practice**

Wednesday, September 8 – 7:00-8:30 Dance Practice

Sunday, September 12 – 12:00-2:30 Dance Practice

Wednesday, September 15 – 7:00-8:30 Dance Practice

Sunday, September 19 – 12:00-2:30 Dance Practice

Wednesday, September 22 – 7:00-8:30 Dance Practice

Sunday, September 26 – 12:00-2:30 Dance Practice

Wednesday, September 29 – 7:00-8:30 Dance Practice

Sunday, October 3 – 12:00-2:30 Dance Practice

Wednesday, October 6 – 7:00-9:00 Dress Rehearsal

Friday - Sunday, October 8-10 – **FESTIVAL**

All Saints Camp

5TH ANNUAL ASC INVITATIONAL

SATURDAY | November 20, 2021

Stonecreek Golf Club

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Fundraiser to benefit Orthodox Youth attending All Saints Camp



8:00 AM SHOT-GUN SCRAMBLE

7:00 AM Check-in

Course located at 4435 E. Paradise Village Pkwy S, Phoenix, AZ 85032

\$150 PER GOLFER

(If paid by Nov 5th | \$175 after deadline)

Bring a full foursome or we can add you to one!

AWARD LUNCHEON FOLLOWING TOURNAMENT

Assumption Community Center | 8202 E. Cactus Road, Scottsdale

(Non-golfers encouraged to attend @ \$25/person)

For information regarding registration, making a contribution or opportunities to sponsor a portion of the event, please contact Janis Demetrulias, 480-560-5833.



ALL SAINTS CAMP

Again to Share! Share! Share!



OCTOBER 8-10, 2021

GREEK FOOD, MUSIC, DANCING & MORE

FRIDAY, OCT 8
5pm - 10pm

SATURDAY, OCT 9
11am - 10pm

SUNDAY, OCT 10
11am - 6pm

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

1973 E. Maryland, Phoenix | phoenixgreekfestival.org | [f](#)

ADMISSION

\$5.00 - for an entire day of fun

Children under 12 free

Seniors over 60:

FREE Saturday from

11:00am - 3:00pm

**No pets permitted (service dogs excluded)*

PARKING

Free Parking at

Charles Schwab -

24th St. & Lincoln.

Shuttles every 15 minutes

\$5.00 to park in

church parking lot



EAT . DANCE . SHOP . PLAY

Authentic Greek Food • Homemade Pastries • Taverna with Greek Beer & Wines

Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Art, Jewelry & More • Village Market

Hellenic Museum of Phoenix • Cathedral Tours • Children's Rides & Activities

THE LONGEST-RUNNING AND LARGEST ORIGINAL GREEK FESTIVAL IN THE VALLEY.