

Newsletter of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 1973 E. Maryland Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Office: 602-264-7863 Fax: 602-230-9099 Website: <u>www.holytrinityphx.org</u> Rev. Economos Apostolos Hill Rev. Alexander Eliades Rev. Deacon John Thrasher

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

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

Desert Springs Staff Rev. Apostolos Hill, Theological Advisor/Editor-In-Chief Kristen Vasilarakos, Layout/ Composition 602-332-8809, <u>kvasilarakos@cox.net</u>

Desert Springs Deadline The 25th of each month

Sunday Bulletin Deadline Wednesdays, 12 noon

Church Office Email Addresses

Father Apostolos Hill <u>htpriest@holytrinityphx.org</u> <u>papoulihill@gmail.com</u>

Father Alexander Eliades <u>fraeliades@holytrinityphx.org</u>

Office Manager Natalie Lewis AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org

Church Front Desk <u>htfrontoffice@holytrinityphx.org</u>

Church Caretakers Terry, Paul, and Dimitri Valonis

> Holy Trinity Bookstore <u>info@stnectariosphx.org</u>

2022 Parish Council Members

President: Paul Katsenes Vice President: Connie Contes Treasurer: Jim Manelis Ass't. Treasurer: Dina Anagnopoulos Secretary: Andi Fourlis Sandy Annos, Charlie DeMoss, Alexander Harding, Jill Leach, Sandy Meris, Elias Moussa, Socrates Papadopoulos

> Holy Trinity Cathedral www.holytrinityphx.org

Metropolis of San Francisco www.SanFran.goarch.org

> Archdiocese Website www.goarch.org

Organization Contacts

- AHEPA Col. Mike Torrealday: <u>tdayf16@cox.net</u>
- All Saints Camp Evan Tsagaris: <u>etsagaris89@gmail.com</u>
- Altar Servers David Haag, Chris Francis: <u>davidmhaag@yahoo.com</u>, <u>battersbox7@yahoo.com</u>
- **Bible Study** Father Apostolos Hill: <u>papoulihill@gmail.com</u>
- Bookstore Rita Papaspyrou: <u>stnectariosphx@gmail.com</u>
- Byzantine Choir George Duvall: <u>phxchantor@cox.net</u>
- Choir Terri Alexon: <u>htphxmusicdirector@gmail.com</u>
- Dance Niko Panagiotakopoulos: <u>npanos01@yahoo.com</u>
- Daughters of Penelope Cathy Keyser: <u>keyserc53@gmail.com</u>
- **Desert Diamonds (50+)** Julie Karoutas: <u>juliekaroutas@gmail.com</u>
- Epistle Readers Presvytera Denise Hill: <u>denkevhill83@gmail.com</u>
- Feed Those in Need Christine Stamatis: <u>cstamatis@cox.net</u>
- **Greek Festival** Nick Kretsedemas, Angelo Pestrivas: <u>niko.37@cox.net</u>
- Greek School Irene Mackos: <u>eirinie@gmail.com</u>
- Hellenic Museum Bessie Hotis: call 602-953-1913
- Little Lambs Angela Scopelianos: <u>angelagarozzo@gmail.com</u>
- Maintenance Peter Bilitsis, Ted Fourlis: <u>htcmaintenance1973@gmail.com</u>
- Myrrhbearers Stacey Beaty: <u>staceybeaty@live.com</u>
- Narthex Outreach Kristen Vasilarakos: <u>kvasilarakos@cox.net</u>
- **OPA** Caroline Economopoulos: <u>cjecomom@gmail.com</u>
- Parish Council Jim Manelis: jmanelis@aol.com
- Philoptochos Alex Anagnopoulos: <u>aanagnopoulos2@msn.com</u>
- **Safety & Security** Paul Katsenes, Socrates Papadopoulos: <u>pkatsenes@cox.net</u>
- Sons of Pericles Ted Fourlis: text or call: 602-625-8835
- **Special Events Administrator** Angie Lambrou: <u>angie.lambrou@cox.net</u>
- Stewardship Sandy Meris: <u>sandymeris@gmail.com</u>
- Sunday School Kathy New: <u>kkatsalis@msn.com</u>
- Wedding Coordinator Lindsay Vardalos
- YAL Alexander Harding: text 480-626-3149

Attention Organizations:

Please check the listings on this page and confirm that the information is correct. Email is the default contact type, but listings can be changed to text or phone if preferred. Email any changes to both the Office at <u>AdminAssist@holytrinityphx.org</u> and Kristen at <u>kvasilarakos@cox.net</u>. <u>It is the organization's</u> <u>responsibility</u> to inform Natalie and Kristen of any updates to your listing.

Message from Father Apostolos

Travel Logistics

What was I thinking when I booked our flight to Germany on the *Sunday after Thanksgiving*? As if international travel wasn't complicated enough by the confusing layers of Covid-related requirements. Vaccination status, Covid tests, which countries require which forms for entry and which types of masks are required made for a hair-raising experience! The brusque German soldier with the automatic weapon who challenged the suitability of my common surgical mask as we deplaned certainly had my attention!



Anticipating this, I began meticulously plotting the logistics of our trip well in advance and created a spreadsheet with all the flight and itinerary numbers, departure times, gates and terminals, and carrier telephone numbers for ease of reference, even rehearsing the route through the Paris CGD Airport to make our connection in the hour between flights. The reward came as we met our daughter and grandkids in the U-Bahn station at the Nuremberg Airport and our grandson burst out of the train and into our arms!

Adequate preparation allowed me to focus on the crucial aspects of the journey without overly obsessing about the logistics of it (though Presbytera may beg to differ with that assessment!) Any less attention to detail would only have added to the level of stress in navigating the circuitous route of seven airports and four airlines and related issues.

This experience correlates, to my mind, with the voyage we will be taking together in the weeks ahead and the preparation required for us to not only reach the destination but to enjoy the journey itself. Beginning in the middle of the month, allusions to "Gates" and Paths" will appear in our Matins hymnology to prompt us to prepare for the annual pilgrimage through Great Lent. I understand that many will flinch upon reading the phrase, already dreading the rigor it involves, but stay with me.

Great Lent is indeed an inward journey, one that leads us into the recesses of our own inner state before God. It is variably referred to as the "Lenten Spring" and as a "Royal Road;" curiously positive descriptions for a season typically met with hesitation and groans. And as with any complex journey, there are logistical considerations to address. For those who choose to fully embrace it, alterations must be made in our schedules and meal plans and family routines must be sharpened to allow for prayer in the home to flourish.

That Great Lent carries such a negative connotation only underscores the degree to which it is urgently needed. The corrective therapy of ascesis-fueled prayer, the longer, slower, quieter liturgical rhythms, the accentuation of contemplative silence, all these potentialize the calming of the mind and heart and the mending of the soul. And of absolute importance, the healing Grace of God offered in the holy mystery of Confession provides the Heaven-bound with the assurance that the destination is within reach.

Every time I travel I laugh aloud at the buffonnary of the Class-based division of travelers into categories; Platinum, Gold, Select, Executive, for the privileged, to deluxe economy, economy, steerage, cargo, and the "why are you even here?" classes of the great unwashed. No such nonsense assails us on our pilgrimage through the "Gates of Repentance" along the "Path of Salvation." In fact, the very first Gospel Reading of the Lenten Triodion upends the model! It

Fr. Apostolos' Message continued from page 3

was the Tax-collector smiting his breast at the back of the Temple and who cried "Have mercy on me, a sinner!" who left the Temple forgiven and not the "Premier Elite" Pharisee who sauntered his way into the Sky Lounge!

Levity aside, if ever there was a time for the Orthodox faithful to, as St. Paul wrote "throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and run with endurance the race set out for us," it is now. Many have strayed from the path altogether as the rapid hollowing out of American churches makes plain. Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it" ring especially true today.

As the confusing stream of constantly-changing travel requirements bombarded us in the days leading up to our trip, I was tempted to postpone it had it not been for the careful planning I had undertaken. It was our love for our precious daughter and her family that drove us to follow through despite the difficulties. Similarly, we may be tempted to forego this annual pilgrimage through Great Lent in any meaningful and potentially life-challenging way. And it will be our love for Jesus Christ that will goad us to follow through with our Lenten journey as well.

It is said, we don't plan to fail, we simply fail to plan. It is not too early to begin planning our course for the pilgrimage ahead and doing so will greatly enhance the enjoyment we will experience as we take this trip together!

Epiphany



Desert Springs January 2022

Stewardship By Sandy Meris

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



THIS WAS NO ACCIDENT

As the Greek tradition goes, whoever receives the coin in their piece of Vasilopita on January 1st will have luck for the year. This beautiful custom is also done in our Cathedral by Father Apostolos. He cuts a piece of Vasilopita for each of the ministries on the first Sunday of the new year. This year the stewardship ministry received the coin. What a beautiful blessing! And in my opinion, this was no accident.

In the past several years, the stewardship program has blossomed and is thriving! As a Church family, we are learning what the true meaning of stewardship is. We are growing in our faith and therefore, growing in our stewardship. Holy Trinity parishioners are being called to give like never before. Christ sees our progress. He is guiding us on this path. All we need to do is listen to Him, trust in Him and participate.

Unfortunately, I was recovering from Covid and therefore unable to be in church the day Father Apostolos cut the Vasilopita. But, soon after it happened, my phone started blowing up with texts and phone calls from people letting me know the good news. Each telling me how happy they were for me that Stewardship received the coin and how deserving and fitting it was. I received congratulations from all. But the truth is, *I didn't receive the coin. We, the Holy Trinity stewards, received the coin that day. This is a blessing for our entire Cathedral family because stewardship is not just a committee or a ministry but rather it is a core component of Christianity.*

And now with the coin on our side, there is no telling what 2022 holds for Holy Trinity. May we continue to bless our Cathedral with our gifts and may Holy Trinity continue to bless and enrich our lives.

By Sandy Meris Stewardship Chairwoman

Easy Stewardship Sign Up!



Go to <u>www.holytrinityphx.org</u> and then click on **Stewardship**

Stewardship Drive

WESHARE SIGN UP DRIVE - Sunday February 6 & 13

Have you considered signing up to pay your stewardship through WeShare but aren't sure how to do it?

No problem! The Stewardship committee has you covered!



We will hold a <u>WeShare Sign Up Drive</u> and

members of our Stewardship committee will be at Coffee Hour with our laptops ready to help get you registered and set up.

Sunday, February 6 & 13 during Coffee Hour

Simply bring the following information with you:

- Your personal email address and password
- How you would like to pay your stewardship (credit card information or checking account information including routing and account numbers).

Then we will walk you through the process and set up your WeShare account. We assure you that all of your information will be kept confidential and secure. If you have any questions please contact Sandy Meris at: *sandymeris@gmail.com* or 602-525-0345. Thank you!

Stewardship

If you have not filled out a pledge card for 2022, please pick one up in the Church Narthex or visit holytrinityphx.org. We offer you our thanks for your dedication to our parish and your participation in Christ's work of salvation.

Delay on Stewardship Donation Envelopes

The Stewardship weekly donation envelopes have not yet arrived from our printer. They have informed us that they are delayed and will ship them as soon as possible. If you are waiting for those envelopes in order to contribute toward your Stewardship, there is no need to wait! Simply put your check in the offering tray, use a blank envelope from home or grab an envelope from the Narthex. Be sure to ALWAYS write "Stewardship" in the memo line. Thank you for your patience!

Vasilopita Cutting



Photos by Caroline Economopoulos Desert Springs January 2022

Parish Council Swearing In and Anointing

Sunday, January 30, 2022



Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Parish Council!

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

The 2022 Parish Council, recognizing the need for even more hands to help in the work of moving our Cathedral forward, appointed the 3 members who also offered their services to the Cathedral and ran for Parish Council earlier this year. On Sunday, 02/06/2022 we will be swearing in and anointing these 3 members who were appointed for this year:

Alexander Harding Jill Leach Elias Mousa

Congratulations to all and we ask your prayers for their work in steering our Cathedral to it's bright future!

Desert Springs January 2022

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 <u>totally dependent</u> 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 **inviolate** 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 \$594,140.

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 MO+ Tasia Pritchard John George Thomas Steve & Joan Vrahas James & Connie Coin Contes

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS OVER \$1,000.00

Dr. Christopher J. DeMoss, the Lambrou Family

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, IMO+ James H. Karros

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:_____ 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 Eless You* + *for your generosity.* Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral + 1973 E Maryland Phoenix AZ 85016

IRA Tax Savings

TAX SAVINGS FOR HOLY TRINITY MEMBERS WITH IRA'S

Seniors are **required** to take withdrawals from their IRA's when they reach 72 years old.

Those withdrawals are fully taxable at ordinary income rates. There is a simple way to avoid that tax, and help Holy Trinity. When you have funds sent<u>directly</u> from your IRA to Holy Trinity, **the tax is avoided**. You do not get an additional deduction for this donation, because you have already saved the tax by your direct gift from your IRA.

You can make this process very simple by asking your IRA manager to issue a checkbook to you, then you simply write checks directly from Your IRA to Holy Trinity and any other charitable gifts you wish to make.

+ REMEMBER HOLY TRINITY IN YOUR WILL +

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Alex Anagnopoulos, President

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Next Meeting on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 6:30pm Speros Community Center

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

2022 Membership Drive

The Philoptochos membership drive is in full swing. Stop by our table in the Speros Community Center today and pick up or complete a membership form. With your completed form, you will also be entered into our membership raffle to be held on Sunday, February 27 during our "Happiness Hour". Prizes include cash and other fun surprises. Each year, our chapter is assigned a seminarian. This year, we are overjoyed to help sponsor Joshua Rognstad! May the Lord bless his journey.



JOIN PHILOPTOCHOS 2022

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 #	AMO	UNT:	
\$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 o	f HTC Membership 202	2, 1973 E. Maryland Ave	nue, Phoenix, AZ 85016	

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Philoptochos Annual Vasilopita Cutting & Silent Auction

January 9, 2022

Thank you to our community for your continued support of Philoptochos' Annual Vasilopita Cutting and Silent Auction! We shared various cut Vasilopitas during Coffee Hour followed by a Silent Auction. We auctioned various beautiful Vasilopitas made by the ladies of Philoptochos for our parish to bid on, take home, and share with our families to start off the New Year. Thank you to Georgia Fourlis, Irene Demas, and the whole team for another successful year!

Proceeds benefited St. Basil Academy <u>https://sbagoa.org/</u>, one of the many ministries Philoptochos supports.







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**. January's Chosen Charity: **The Joy Bus**



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**.

The Chapter will accept nominations at each monthly meeting.

Philoptochos Members: <u>Click HERE for the Nomination Form</u>

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

From Chapter President Alex Anagnopoulos:

Dear Holy Trinity Cathedral Parishioners and Philoptochos Sisters:

Unfortunately this year the Agape Ball Fundraiser was cancelled due to Covid. However, we are still fundraising to support the Kids 'n' Cancer Camp to be held in June 2022. We are continuing to fundraise by having a virtual silent auction. All information will be forwarded very shortly.



We would like to share the disbursements of the fundraising donations made in 2021 in place of the Kids 'n Cancer Camp. The camp was cancelled due to Covid. However, the monies raised were given to the families and the children suffering from this illness in the following manners:

1. One of our campers, a twelve year old boy, was suffering from a brain tumor. He was such a joy to be around. Always smiling and never complaining. He was doing so well his family took him on a short trip to a nearby state to visit family. He had a relapse and could not be saved. He lost his battle and is now in the Lord's hands. We helped the family pay his funeral expenses.

2. In one of our parishes a family changed their health insurance policy months before their child was diagnosed with cancer. We helped pay medical expenses because the coverage for cancer in the first year was limited.

We held a Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Christmas party in December of 2021. We gave gift cards of \$200.00 to each family for Christmas dinner groceries. We gave the children suffering from cancer each \$100.00 gift cards to Amazon to shop for their Christmas gifts.

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc., is the duly accredited women's philanthropic society of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The mission of the Society shall be:

• To help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters, to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the Church through fund raising efforts; and

• To promote the charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic purposes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, through instructional programs, presentations, lectures, seminars and other educational resources;

• To preserve and perpetuate Orthodox Christian concepts and the Orthodox Christian Family, and through them, to promote the Greek Orthodox Faith and traditions, in accordance with its doctrines, canons, discipline, divine worship, usages and customs;

• To promote participation in the activities of the Greek Orthodox community, with the cooperation of the Parish Priest and the Parish Council.

The charitable work of the Society shall be performed with discretion, courtesy and kindness.

Thiloptochos truly appreciates all of your support through the NINETY YEARS (established in 1931). Many generations of women (and some gracious gentlemen) have joyfully worked to *help others in need. It has been a labor of love.*

Holy Trinity's St. Katherine Philoptochos

Give Your Heart to a Child & Their Family Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape Online Auction Fundraiser

Kids 'n' Cancer program provides support for children afflicted with cancer and other life-threatening diseases. Camp Agape offers a lifechanging, all-expense paid experience for children and their families. It provides opportunities for



Arizona Camp Agape, 2019

enjoyment, learning and building self-esteem and confidence in a safe setting. The kindness and caring that surrounds them offers an ideal environment for therapy and healing. Since our first camp in Dunlap, California in 1989, Camp Agape has expanded to camps in Portland, OR, San Diego, CA and Mayer, AZ. We opened the Arizona camp in July of 2008. June 2022 will mark our 15th year serving Arizona families.

The Arizona Philoptochos Chapters are reaching out to the community to support the Kids 'n' Cancer Camp Agape Online Auction. Besides bidding on auction items, you can provide monetary donations/sponsorships. ANY AMOUNT WILL HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD. Please visit the website below to donate.

32auctions.com/KidsnCancerAgapeAuction facebook.com/Kids-n-Cancer-Camp-Agape

Please call Kathy Connell at 602-524-1959 for more information.



Kids 'n' Cancer is a non-profit community outreach program of The SPO Ladies Philoptochos Society, Tax ID #364585276





Philoptochos Room Clean Out and Reorganization January 26, 2022





January Meeting Hostesses *Thank you!*



Desert Springs January 2022

Community Barbeque

February 26, 2022

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Community Night

-Saturday, February 26 -Vespers at 5pm-BBQ to follow under Community Center Patio -All Welcome for a free Meatfare BBQ of Burgers and Hot Dogs! -RSVP by Tues. Feb. 22 Games and music provided

RSVP AT:

Click Here

We're Having a

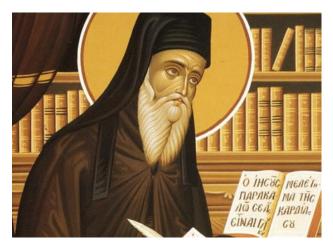
Desert Springs January 2022

Pascha 2022



St. Nicodemus the Hagiorite Young Adult Book Discussion Club Arizona Chapter Guidelines to participate:

Borrow a book from the young adult church library (left bookshelf in the Narthex) and join the Discord



server for book discussions and scheduled meetings. After completing the book, please write a brief synopsis under the appropriate page in this document before borrowing another book. While not required, consider using this document as a reading journal to share key takeaway points with other members! Books outside the library list are welcome with the approval of a priest.

Email Mary Pardhe to join here

Link to books available to borrow: <u>Book Availability Tracker</u> Discord server: <u>https://discord.gg/vCecfncws7</u>

Young Adult Book Discussion Club

Are you interested in reading and discussing Orthodox books with young adults across the Valley? If so, join us in the new Young Adult Book Discussion club! We have a collection of books

available to borrow and will be meeting regularly, ideally twice a month, to discuss what we have read. Our meetings will be primarily virtual but we do intend to plan occasional inperson gatherings and events. For more information about the club and registration, please email *yalazbookclub@gmail.com*!

Arizona Hellenic Foundation Scholarship

The Arizona Hellenic Foundation has several scholarships available. For eligibility requirements and application please visit the Foundation's website: *Azhellenic.org*.

Application deadline: April 1, 2022.





St, Katherine Church Celebration

February 5, 2022

HONORING FR. PHILIP ARMSTRONG

& Fr. Timothy Pavlatos

WITH METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS OF SAN FRANCISCO





for a Celebration Elow GRATITUDE AND LOW

> 2716 North Dobson Road Chandler, Arizona 85224 (480) 899-3330

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022 COCKTAILS | 6 PM DINNER & DANCING | 7 PM COCKTAIL ATTIRE TICKETS | \$75 PER PERSON TO PURCHASE GO TO: STKATHERINEAZ.ORG CONTACT | MARINA AMBUS MARINAAMBUS@GMAIL.COM

Desert Springs January 2022

Greek School Irene Dartoozos Mackos, Director Gabriella Papatzimas, Teacher phxgreekschool@gmail.com

Καλησπέρα! Τι κάνεις;

How did 2022 go so far?

Greek School students are fine and still dreaming of speaking Greek fluently, or even better, visiting Greece while communicating with the locals!

The letter omikron did not leave us in peace yet, but no worries, we are still have in person classes and learning about our cultural. We made individual vasilopitas for each student to cut with their families, cut our Greek School pita and learned about St. Basil. Congratulations to Sophia who received the coin.

Our motto is in 2022 is

just take a break - κάντε ένα διάλειμμα,

and enjoy the simple pleasures in life... και απολαύστε τις απλές χαρές της ζωής.

The students are getting ready for March 25, Greek Independence Day. We will be having our annual Greek School Independence Day Program on March 27, after liturgy in the Speros Community Center. Please join us and support our Greek School.

Greek School classes are Wednesday nights from 4-5 PK, 5-6:30 level 1 and 5-7 level 2.

We look forward to seeing your kids in Greek School soon. If interested, contact phxgreekschool@gmail.com

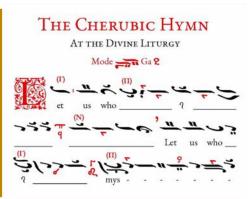
Byzantine Chant

Our Byzantine Chant Class will begin soon! The course is open to all Holy Trinity parishioners, and will cover the notation, the eight Modes of Byzantine Music, as well as participation in and learning about the divine services. Anyone interested in attending should contact **Cantor George Duvall** for more information.

Coffee Hours

Thank you to **Dance** for sponsoring Coffee Hours in January.

The February Coffee Hours are OPEN.







Desert Diamonds

Senior Parishioners and their guests Julie Karoutas email: <u>juliekaroutas@gmail.com</u> cell: 623-313-8720 call or text



Dear Desert Diamonds & Friends,

Let us welcome the month of February by celebrating the Chinese New Year of the Tiger **Wednesday, February 2, 2022** at a favorite restaurant close by the church; mark your calendar for, George Yang's Chinese Cuisine, 6048 N 16th St., Phoenix, AZ 85016 Tel# 602.368.2688 at 11:30 am.

See YOU there!!!

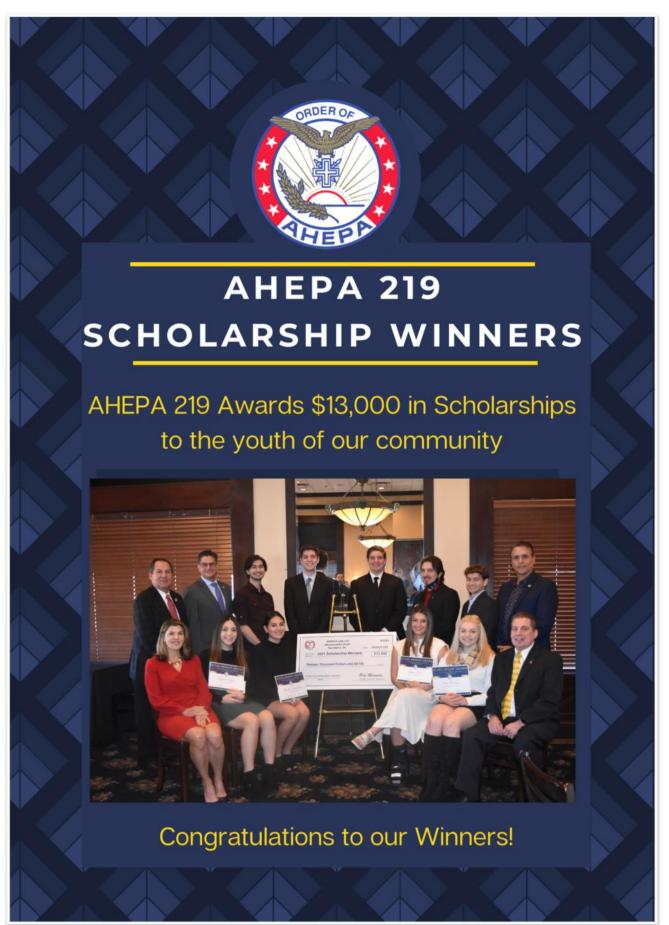
Love in Christ, Julie Karoutas

Please respond; Yes or no.... email; <u>juliekaroutas@gmail.com</u> cell#; 623.313.8720



January's outing to Olive Garden

AHEPA Chapter 219



AHEPA Chapter 219



CELEBRATE WITH US! AHEPA CHAPTER 219 AWARDS NIGHT

A Chapter Celebration

FEBRUARY 12, 2022

6:00PM COCKTAILS 6:30 PM DINNER **7:45 AWARDS** SOCIAL AFTER AWARDS

HOLY TRINITY GREEK **ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL** JAMES A SPEROS COMMUNITY CENTER

OPEN BAR WITH 4 COURSE - 5 STAR MEAL

\$80 per Couple or \$45 per person RSVP no later than February 7, 2022 to:

John Kostaras: 480.318.1935 or jkostaras61@gmail.com

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW - LIMITED SEATING

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 <u>www.holytrinityphx.org</u>, 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 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:	1
Contact Phone:	
Return this form to the Church Office or	ļ
I contact Kristen at 602-332-8809	

Our Church Family

Funerals

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever." Psalm 23:6



01/11/2022 Alice Carras *May her memory be eternal.*

01/12/2022 Diane Bruskas Berry *May her memory be eternal.*

01/19/2022 Tony Nicoluzakis *May his memory be eternal.*



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!*





<u>Light a Candle</u>

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 Help 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 walk with them to Coffee Hour. A personal connection goes far!



Desert Springs January 2022

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 <u>clicking here</u> to join a group or lead!



St. Nectarios Books & Beyond

Submitted by Rita Papaspyrou stnectariosphx@gmail.com

The month of February offers us the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple as well as the Feast Day of St. Haralambos the Hieromartyr.

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Commemorated on February 2





Another name for this feast is The Meeting of our Lord.

The story of the Presentation is told in Luke 2:22-29. Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and observed their religious customs. An important custom was for the couple to take their first-born son to the Temple. The baby was taken to the Temple forty days after his birth and was dedicated to God. In addition, if the parents were wealthy, they were to bring a

lamb and a young pigeon or a turtle dove to be offered as a sacrifice at the Temple. The custom provided that if the parents were poor, they were to offer two pigeons or two turtle doves for the sacrifice.

Joseph and Mary were not wealthy, so they took two turtle doves with them to offer as a sacrifice at the Temple.

As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man and was noted as a very intelligent scholar. Simeon spent much time studying about the prophets of Israel. It was during his studies that he learned of the coming of the Messiah. The Jewish people were waiting for the Messiah to come and deliver Israel from their conquerors. From that time on, Simeon spent his time praying for the Messiah to come. He spent many years in prayer. Finally, while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.

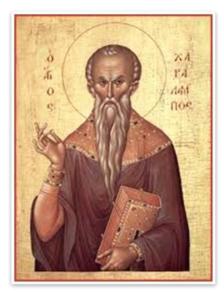
When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the baby in his arms and blessed the Lord and said:

"Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel."

Haralambos (Charalampus) the Hieromartyr

Commemorated on February 10

His name Χαράλαμπος means "glowing with joy" in Greek. It is believed that at the time of his martyrdom in 202, Haralambos was 113 years old. Despite his advanced age, he was tortured mercilessly.



He was the bishop of Magnesia and spread the Gospel in that region for many years. However, when news of his preaching reached the authorities of the area, the proconsul Lucian and military commander Lucius, the Saint was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed his faith in Christ and refused to offer sacrifice to idols. He endured atrocious tortures but held steadfast to his faith.

Lucius, enraged, seized the instruments of torture and began to torture Haralambos himself, but suddenly his forearms were cut off as if by a sword. The governor Lucian then spat in the face of the saint, and immediately Lucian's head was turned around so that he faced backwards. Then Lucius entreated the Saint to show mercy on him, and both torturers were healed through the prayers of Saint Haralambos. During this a multitude of witnesses came to

believe in Christ. Among them also was Lucius, who fell at the feet of the holy bishop, asking to be baptized.

The Saint was brought to the emperor Septimius Severus who sentenced him to beheading with a sword. During Saint Haralambos' final prayer, the heavens opened and the saint saw the Savior and a multitude of angels. The holy martyr asked Him to grant that the place where his relics would repose would never suffer famine or disease. He also begged that there would be peace, prosperity, and an abundance of fruit, grain, and wine in that place, and that the souls of these people would be saved. The Lord promised to fulfill his request and ascended to heaven, and the soul of the hieromartyr Haralambos followed after Him. By the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed.

HTC on Facebook

The page offers news of our Parish Community, in addition to offering links to podcasts and videos of our services. <u>Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral—Phoenix, AZ</u>





House of Stewards

Panagiota Agelakos Catherine Agra Evan & Terri Alexon **Constance Anagnopoulos** Mike & Alex Anagnopoulos John & Sandy Annos Elaine Apostle Chris & Angie Athens Christina Bakavelou Constantine & Eleni Balanis Elise & Shannon Bard Alexandra Bates Joyce Bavlinka Scott & Stacey Beaty George & Stacy Benetos Dan & Vicki Bichekas James & Helen Bruno Chris & Georgia Brusalis Chris & Rita Bruskas Kristen Bruskas Joanne Carras Kathy Carras Frank Carris Chad & Amanda Carver Laurel Charnas-Schiller Thanos & Anna Chimonas Harriet Chotras Pete & Kim Choukalas Katherine & Jeffrey Clarke Jim & Connie Contes Kathy & Eleni Contes Ed Cooper & Angie Valerou-Cooper Nick & Sharon Daniolos Stefanos & Tiffany Daniolos Patty Davis Len & Elaine Debickero Hercules Dellas Patrick & Karla Delord Joanne Demangus Tom & Irene Demas John & Mary Demetropoulos Bill DeMoss Charles DeMoss Chris DeMoss John & Marjorie DeMoss Diane Dion Denise Dye Kathryn Dye Stan & Fran Drozdz Caroline Economopoulos Christos & Dena Economopoulos Fr. Alexander & Presv. Laura Eliades Greg Fernandez Helen Fernandez Athanasia Fourlis Athanase & Georgia Fourlis Ted & Andi Fourlis Chris & Celeste Francis Georgi Frieh Tim & Antonette Fraenkel George & Julie Froumis Andreanna Georgiou Thomas & Christina Georgiou John Giannopoulos Polly Ginakes Eva Goodman

Bill & Lynn Graham Gina Graham David Haag Mary Haidos **Donald Hall** Alexander Harding Terry Harper Patsy Harris Alexia Haugen Stephanie Heckel Veronica Hill Rev. Fr. Apostolos & Presv. Denise Hill Bessie Hotis Jeff Johannesmeyer James & Linda Kalivas Basile & Roula Kaneris Nick & Dena Kantaros William & Harriet Kapolas Vasilios & Vasiliqi Karagiannis Christina Karalekas Julie Karoutas Joanne Karros Stavros & Olga Kasimatis Paul & Lori Katsenes Thomas J. Katsenes John & Mary Katsenes George Katsaros Helen Katsufrakis James & Joann Karros Jim & Poppy Kavouris Fanny Kechajias Ronald & Virginia Kidd Emily Kimmell George & Zanetta Kleanthis Maria Kompos Anastasia Kompos Elizabeth Kratsas John & Angie Lambrou Judith & Bruce Lamond Elias & Mary Lampos Gregory Lizanich Efterpi Lourias Jim & Stephanie Machas Melina Machas Marika Makridis **Daniel MacInnis Bette Maniatis** Maria Maniatis Anna Manos Bill & Rina Marinakos Nicholas Marino Mary Lou Mastorakos Angela Mead Joanne Meris Will & Sandy Meris Andrew & Anastasia Mitchell William & Jean Miller Elias Mousa Spyro & Effie Mousses John & Maria Nicholas Annamarie Nieblas Pamela & Jeffrey Nolen Marta Ntatsos Else Paletsos Elizabeth Palmer Anna Panagiotakopoulos Phillip & Eleni Panagiotoglou Sofia Panagiotoglou

Alexander & Olga Papamatheakis Socrates & Stephanie Papadopoulos Nick Papas Betty Papas Irené Pappas Angeline Pappas John & Andrea Pappas Daniel & Anna Pardhe Athena Parmenter Zoe Pestrivas Chris Petroulakis William & Kathryn Petsas Brian & Athena Pickett Georgia Pikoula Jeremy & Anastasia Oxley Lyda Rabbitt Dimitra Hotis Sampson Paul Sarantes Leslie Sarantinos John Schneider Warren & Kalliope Schneider Diane Sedlacek John Siavelis Elias & Phyllis Skoubis Angelo & Marie Spanos Leo & Rachel Speliopoulos Jim & Kathrvn Stamadianos Andy & Christine Stamatis Tristan Stoutenberg Chris Tapas **Despina** Tavlarides William & Rebecca Tavlarides Gus & Mary Louise Theodoropoulos Jim Thomas Deacon John & Diak. Mary Thrasher Andrew Touvannas **Dominic Tropea** Thad & Kathy Tropea Constantine & Stella Tsantillas Costa & Koko Tzavaras Peter & Lindsay Vardalos Kristen Vasilarakos Argyro Vasquez Scott & Terri Vaughn George & Connie Venetis Andrew & Sandy Vlahoulis Angela & Ken Walker Catherine Wallerich Douglas & Paulina Watson Paula & Colin Walsh Richard & Katina Wood Dimitrios & Eugenia Zannis George & Katherine Zannis Zella Zannis Michael & Christina Zistasis Eva Zikos

Daughters of Penelope

Chapter 432 Phoenix AZ

On Sunday, January 16, 2022, we initiated three women from Holy Trinity Cathedral.

Due to COVID we tried to accommodate our members by having a hybrid initiation. With the help of Niki Pallas we set up Zoom for those members participating from home while we had the initiation in person.

The AHEPA District 20 midwinter conference was held in Palm Desert the weekend of January 22-23. Julie Karoutas from our chapter was in attendance. This annual conference provides an opportunity for our members to meet with one another during the year. **Upcoming events**:

- Virtual tour of UMOM
- Meeting in February will be followed by a wine tasting

**Please keep our fellow Ukrainian Orthodox Christians and all of Ukraine in your prayers.

Officers:

Cathy Keyser, *President* Angie Lambrou, *Vice President* Deedee Staikos, *Recording Secretary* Connie Panagiotakopoulos, *Corresponding Secretary* Anastasia Mitchell, *Treasurer* Jennifer Bilitsis, *Marshal* Julie Karoutas, *Officer at Large, AHEPA Liaison* **If you are interested in joining, please contact Angie Lambrou (Vice President) by email:** angie.lambrou@cox.net or by phone at (480) 473-4906.



Grand Governor and District Governor

Kathy Clarke, Maria Alman and

Pam Nolan.







Tell Us Something Good

A shout-out to Dance Director Niko Panagiotakopoulos as he leads four groups going to FDF 2022!

We wish you success! You have all worked so hard!



Most parishioners know **Charlie DeMoss**—but if you haven't met him yet, you will find him about two times a month on the right side



behind the counter as you enter the Narthex. Stop and say **Hello!**

Altar Service

Interested in learning more about serving on the altar?

Contact: Chris Francis at <u>battersbox7@yahoo.com</u>, David Haag at <u>davidmhaag@yahoo.com</u>



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



Assumption Fundraiser

February 25, 2022

TWENTY SECOND ANNUAL PHILOPTOCHOS CHARITY BENEFIT

CRABFEAST FOOD • PHILANTHROPY • LIVE & SILENT AUCTION • FELLOWSHIP • F

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM

ADULTS \$65 CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$25 *PRICE INCREASES BY \$10 AFTER 2/1/22

Help us support the fight against Human-Trafficking! A portion of this year's proceeds will support StreetLightUSA, a home, recovery and counseling center for teen victims of sex-trafficking.

www.streetlightusa.org

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

CRAB CAKE • \$500/2 TICKETS BLUE CRAB • \$1000/4 TICKETS HORSESHOE CRAB • \$2500/1 TABLE (10 TICKETS) KING CRAB • \$5000/2 TABLES (20 TICKETS)

PURCHASE TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS OR DONATE ONLINE AT HTTP://ASSUMPTIONAZ.ORG/CRABFEAST

> ASSUMPTION COMMUNITY CENTER 8202 E CACIUS - SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260

CONTACT SUZANNE GUVAN (206-612-6838), ANGELA KOUMONTZIS (480-688-3591) OR ESTELLE STELL (480-235-5006)

OPA—Orthodox Parents Association

Caroline Economopoulos, President



High School Juniors and Seniors!



Desert Springs January 2022

Youth Night January 22, 2022



Greek Dance

Niko Panagiotakopoulos: call/text: (602) 469-2039 <u>npanos01@yahoo.com</u>

Next up—FDF!



The 45th Annual Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival

President's Day Weekend February 17th-20th, 2022 *Here in Phoenix!* At the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel

Our Greek Dance Soup and Salad Fundraiser Luncheon

Join us in the Speros Center for the Soup and Salad Luncheon Sunday after Liturgy in support of our Greek Dance program!

The Luncheon is \$10 per person and any and all proceeds go to facilitating our dancers joining in



the Metropolis ministry of Folk Dance Festival.

While you enjoy your food our dancers will be in full costume debuting their dances for this year's FDF here in Phoenix.